



AUGUST 2021

# HOLLYWOODLAND HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER



## PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Friends and neighbors we have been busy and engaged with activities to keep you and your property safe. These are some of the projects we continue to work on your behalf:

- Restoration and repair of the the historic stairs at 3030 Beachwood Drive and the historic wall on split Mulholland.
- A formal Request to prohibit electric scooters in Hollywoodland.
- Requested CD4 amend the scooter ordinance to regulate electric charging stations to commercially zoned areas only.
- Provided factual documents and have dialogued with RAP and CD 4 regarding the the Deronda/ Mt. Lee fence and gate.
- Met with CD4 to share tasks, concerns and actions (see website for details)
- Support fencing and appropriate plantings for Mulholland Hwy and Canyon Lake Drive.
- Support Planning's Wildlife Pilot Program and request support for all of tract 6450 as a Significant Ecological Area (SEA).
- Interfaced and acted on your behalf to oppose SB9 and SB10.
- Participated in meetings with United Neighbors, Assemblywoman Friedman and Livable California.
- Maintained and monitored the Hollywoodland Village Green.
- Offered two free community concerts in June and July.
- Organized and researched materials for Hollywoodland's upcoming 100th Anniversary.

Congrats to Hollywoodland neighbor **Janine Riveire** for being awarded the American String Teachers Association Teacher of the Year award!

Thank you **Doron Ofir** for spearheading the long overdue paving for Hollyridge Drive! -CONTINUED ON PAGE 2-

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# AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Some things that left us: the blue US post box, the unhitched red trailer with out-of-state plates parked illegally for weeks though out the neighborhood, thirty (30) beautiful mature trees on the five vacant Mullholland Highway lots that shaded and offered an animal habitat for more than 100 years.

Our fur friends who passed and will be missed by many: Cookie (friend to Soren Kirk) and Frankie (friend to Carlos Puete).

And finally a reminder, sixty years ago on May 13 marked the Hollywoodland fire that destroyed 8 homes and damaged 16. Homes were lost at: 6201 Rodgerton ( the Norman Castle), 3276 Deronda (Aldous Huxley), 3210 Deronda, 3226 Deronda, 3020 Beachwood, 3014 Beachwood, 3133 Hollyridge and Albert Kothe's home the last house before 3200 Beachwood (probably given to him by the Sherman Company before they removed all Hollywoodland interests). Over 1,200 acres burned in Hollywood Gifted Park / Griffith Park. Be a fire scout! Remind smokers it's a \$1,000 fine!

We are beginning to wind down 2021 and will be welcoming new board members to carry the baton. Please consider offering your time.

## HOLLYWOODLAND'S 100th ANNIVERSARY

There is so much that has to be done for our 100th. One morning I was inspired by the book review section of the WSJ. Each week they review a variety of books. One was Places: Looking Through Antwerp, by Frieda Sorber. She writes about textiles and this book was about lace. After reading the review I glanced at my kitchen window facing the street. Hanging from that window is a tatting piece my Italian grandma, Gina Leonardi created. She was always tatting. This entire brief encounter with a book review, Gina's visual reflection, jotted an idea for Hollywoodland's 100th Anniversary.

We need to get people to engage with the community by sharing: The Story My House Tells. This will not be just the old homes, but as many houses as we can source and document as well as personal reflections. Would you be interested in helping with this? Maybe being the repository of writings, the organizer of the text and images, etc. Please let us know! Christine

## SAFETY

The July CPAB meeting: watch the **new Captain Brent McGuyre**. Our SLO Heather Mata is back, having spent her bonding time with her new baby. Thank You Brian White for subbing and welcome back Heather. "Friend" LAPD Hollywood Division on Twitter and Instagram and you get good information such as this tweet they put out recently.



## BOOK CLUB

Some residents met David Levitin on line for a discussion of his book. All were very happy to learn what David had to teach us, and we try to practice it every day. Namely, he taught that what he calls "micro conversations" are a great predictor of keeping your brain in top notch functioning as you age! Say hi to your neighbors and their doggies! Connect!

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10158102050382467&set=g.75860974175>

What is one of your very favorite books? Submit a title of a really great book: history, biography, spiritual--you name it. Then we'll pick one and publicize it to see if several of us can read the same book for a couple of weeks. Then we can meet on ZOOM to discuss it. Write to [info@hollywoodland.org](mailto:info@hollywoodland.org) with BOOK CLUB in the Subject Line.



# GOVERNMENT UPDATE

## CD4 UPDATE

On July 22, a representative of the HHA attended a Zoom community meeting hosted by Councilwoman Nitty Raman with LAFD West Bureau Chief Hogan and Captain Nassour of the LAFD Brush Clearance Unit to discuss fire issues specifically related to Very High Fire Severity Zones (VADSZ).

These zones in which Hollywoodland sits, make up a sizable portion of CD4, and our new Councilwoman Raman appears to be learning more about the complex public safety issues in these areas.

Most of the meeting consisted of LAFD presenting boiler plate information about their fire fighting resources, brush clearance, the best and worst plants in regards to fire safety, the homeless (24 fires a day are set by the homeless), and fire spread prevention. They then took questions. HHA had submitted a question that was not asked. We have followed up with CD4 with that and additional questions and are waiting for a promised response.

The next day CD4 arranged for fire safety brochures with much information to be left at the front door of many homes in the VHFSZ including Hollywoodland. We appreciate CD4's focus on this extremely important issue.

- Sign up for NotifyLA alerts for or urgent notifications about local emergencies by phone, email, and/or text message, visit [notifyla.org](https://notifyla.org), or text **READY to 888-777**.
- Sign up for LAFD alerts by visiting LAFD's main page at [lafd.org](https://lafd.org).
- Make sure you and your neighbors are prepared for an emergency by participating in a READY YOUR LA NEIGHBORHOOD workshop, and following their guidelines to prepare for emergencies, like assembling your emergency kit.
- Visit [readyla.org/workshops](https://readyla.org/workshops) to sign up
- Visit LAFD's website at [lafd.org](https://lafd.org) for a full library of fire-related resources and information, including: Brush Clearance Info & Guidelines: [lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush/introduction](https://lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush/introduction)
- 'Ready Set Go!' guidelines for fire emergencies: [lafd.org/ready-set-go](https://lafd.org/ready-set-go)
- Sign up for Chief Hogan's newsletter! Email him at [armando.hogan@lacity.org](mailto:armando.hogan@lacity.org) to get signed up.

## STATE UPDATE

**SB9** is routing it way in Sacramento while **SB10** just passed the assembly. These allow multi unit construction - up to 10 units per lot in ANY single family neighborhood. This would devastate single family neighborhoods. The Senate has passed both and they are on their way to the assembly. While our Senator Portantino voted no on SB9 he voted yes on SB10. HHA has reached out to him for perspective on fire safety issues in hillside communities but have not heard back.

The bill is still under discussion in the house.

Assemblymember Laura Friedman has responded to a couple emails from HHA, but her position is still not confirmed.

She ultimately did not vote on the bill.

A board member attended a call earlier this month and was surprised to discover that although SB10 does include high fire hazard exclusions, they are easily overcome by adopting fire hazard mitigation measures/standards (i.e. slate roofs, sprinklers, etc.). Additionally SB9 is 'by right' meaning no local codes or ordinances need to be followed and SB10 can be adopted anywhere with no Environment Impact Report (EIR) and has by right provisions for ADUs. Targeting single family zones also does not require the developer to address infrastructure needs like roadway width, parking water, sewer or electric.

These bills are being routed as a solution to the affordable housing crisis. With no provisions for low income units it is clear that these are strictly "trickle down" proposals that will devastate our neighborhood and housing values but do nothing for affordable housing. Your voice is needed to stop them from moving forward.

Please write Assemblymember Friedman and let her know your point of view. <https://a43.asmdc.org/contact-me> or [Seamus.Garrity@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Seamus.Garrity@asm.ca.gov)

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# WILDLIFE ROUND UP

Our head skunk, snake and squirrel wrangler Mike Morrow has shared 2021 images of his creatures. Mike is a 70-year plus resident and property owner on Deronda Drive, a third generation Hollywoodlander who knows tract 6450 residential and open space. His grandfather, a professor of architecture at USC served on Hollywoodland's Design Review Board under the Sherman Company ownership era and also owned the iconic Norman Castle\*. Mike's photos include some stunning images of deer at sunrise near the Sunset Ranch, skunks trapped and released in the wild, coyotes admiring the sunrise over an awakening city, hawks, humming birds and young deer, nuzzling pets through the Hollywood Reservoir fence.

Mike has also helped identify our animal trails. We hope his efforts will impress the city and encourage them to approve the residential section of Hollywoodland as an Significant Ecoglocal Area (SEA) and preserve our wonderful neighborhood.

Second generation Hollywoodlander, Tara Fong-Stephenson had a curious deer visitor in June. The little doe climbed the 800 foot elevation to the Durand Ridge and seemed to want to join her and Waymond for breakfast on her ridgeline patio. He peaked into her kitchen window as if to ask: I'm not invited for coffee?

And then finally, two Beachwood neighbors (close to the village) spotted another mountain lion, younger and smaller, with no collar on their patio.

Our Facebook friends have shared images of some pretty handsome bobcats. Help us document Hollywoodland's unique environmental disposition by adding a camera trap to your garden/ yard. You will enjoy the process and assist with our preservation efforts.

**Being a good neighbor** is being respectful of another person's safety, well being and property. For those interested in promoting a new ingress / egress into the Park please consider how something like this would affect your property and street if an opening would occur steps away from your doorstep.

Think how you, your family and home be subjected to noise, autos, parking, crime, sanitation if thousands of people appeared on your street each week?

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Hollywoodland's Eric Smith photography was recently noted in Audubon 2021 Top 100 photography awards



*Photo courtesy Eric Smith*

From Eric 'Well... Herb, my hummingbird buddy during the wildfires last summer, has hit the big time! He is featured in the table of contents in Audubon's Summer issue to promote the top 100 bird images of the year. I'm pretty sure I became a certified bird nerd during our year of quarantine and this is kind of the pièce de résistance for folks who like to photograph our feathered friends. It makes me so happy to see that little guy and his bug immortalized in print. Thanks Audubon!'

# SAFETY IN HOLLYWOODLAND

The topic of safety is a political hot potato—but it need not be if we find common ground. There are two vantage points from which to see crime: close & far.

- Viewed up close and personal, violence is a threat to one’s well being and future.
- Viewed from a historical distance, perpetrators of violence are often themselves victims.

HHA proposes **Safety in HOLLYWOODLAND** from the former vantage point: for those moments your heart beats fast—when there is a rustling outside your door or a movement beneath your window or you see a package snatcher on the run, a suspicious car door tester, or, God forbid, a robbery in progress. We are aware of larger social problems; however, this plan addresses our instinct to self-preserve and to quell immediate threats or danger.

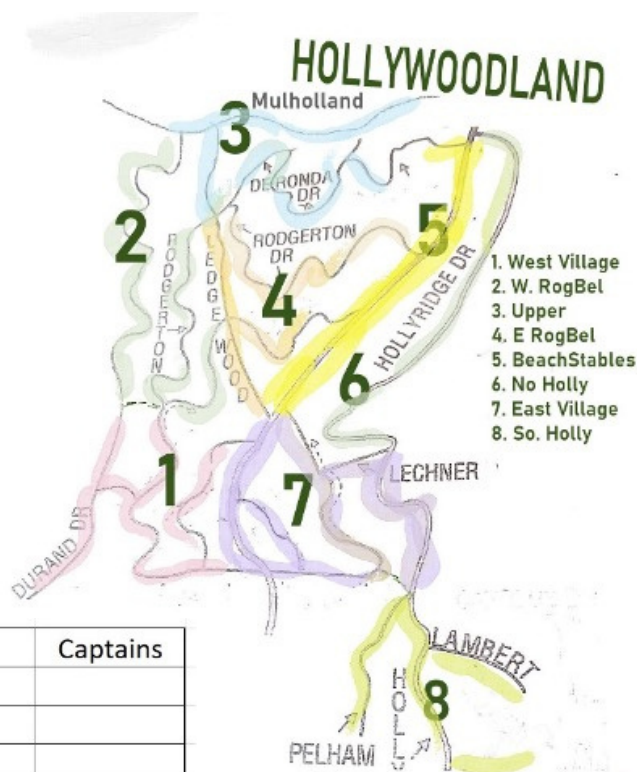
One neighbor had a nasty incident in July: Imagine looking out your side window to see a naked trespasser who, when done with a lengthy masturbation session, saunters over to your AC compressor to use it as a toilet. To react is not being a NIMBY, but is a natural state of a being appalled—and scared.

There were six incidents with homeless visitors in the past weeks—the above was simply the most egregious, although the homeless person whom a pedestrian allowed to slip inside the Sunset Stables gates at 7PM was potentially an even larger danger. Due to one HHA board member quick actions notifying the Ranger, that potential did not come to pass.

We have 8 Safety Zones. As we move through August and early September, HHA will provide the simple steps for you to form and operate your Safety Zone.

These steps will be distributed to HHA members through email first, and then through Facebook for all residents. If you are not interested in safety, you can just delete the emails that come with HWDLAND SAFETY in the Subject line. The purpose of this is to heighten the awareness that you are not alone in Hollywoodland. We can connect; connected, we can report better to the authorities. The first step will be to download the app called GroupMe. Stay tuned.

Organization is power. Our communication with police and private security will strengthen. Organization will make us more alert, safe, and neighborly.



ZONE		Streets	Captains
1	West Village	W Beldon, Woodshire, Flagmoor, So Durand	
2	W. RogBel	West Rogerton and West Beldon	
3	Upper	Mulholland, Deronda, tip of Ledge Wood	
4	E RogBel	Ledge Wood, East Rogerton and East Beldon	
5	BeachStables	Upper Beachwood, both sides, up to Stables and lower Linforth	
6	No. Holly	Hollyridge from Beachwood to Lechner	
7	East Village	Beachwood both sides, Westshire, Woodhaven, Hollyridge to steps	
8	So. Holly	Southern Hollyridge, Pelham, Lambert, Bowling Ball Lane	