



# HOLLYWOOD UNITED



# MYHUNC.COM

## Your Neighborhood Council Update

May 2007 Edition

### President's Message, *By Susan Swan*

Why get involved? We are asked that many times, and sometimes we even question that ourselves. It is indeed easier to *not* do something and let *others* make those tough decisions. But at some point, it becomes personal. To quote the late Congressman Tip O'Neill, "All politics is local."

On July 21st, 2003, Carol Baker Tharp spoke to the HUNC board about volunteerism; "*people get involved initially because of a local issue that affected them personally. Then, the longer they stayed involved the more they began to see the connections between their own self-interests and the interests of the community.*" (HUNC minutes, July 2003). Her words, inspirational! We left feeling renewed and our commitment to the Neighborhood Council effort, positively recharged. We are even more thrilled because she is now the new General Manager of DONE.

I'm certain that there is something that 'gets' you in your community, something that makes no sense, something that you wish 'someone' would do something about sometime! Well, that someone is you, and that sometime is NOW. Get involved! We are planning several Town Halls this year that will address some of the most common concerns of our community, but maybe not your pet project or your pet peeve. The only way that you can ensure that you live in a vibrant, informed community, is to make it so. Email me with your thoughts. We are always there, and we are always listening.

### A HUNC Good Neighbor:

Have you taken a look at the new website for the HUNC?! The transformation took place as a result of the very generous volunteer time given by **Avantika Shahi!**



With her undaunting quest for knowledge, in 1996, she came to UCLA for her master's degree in virtual architecture and is currently a real estate broker affiliated with Keller Williams Realty, where she is a member of the Agent Leadership Council (typically comprised of the top twenty percent of the associate body). She specializes in residential real estate in the greater Los Angeles Area, and has lived here lived for nearly 10 years.

Fortunately for our community, not only does she call it home, but her passion to participate found its way for Avantika to roll up her sleeves and get involved.

***We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give. —***

***Winston Churchill***



**The Winner is ...LAFD!!!** Never overlook being prepared, and never underestimate civic and professional commitment. Our community was very privileged to have survived 2 scathing lessons and summer hasn't yet arrived. The first fire consumed 150 acres and was caused by 2 visiting kids playing with matches. The second fire was another of those 'stupid human tricks', in this case, an adult who fell asleep with a burning cigarette creating an 820 acre blaze that very nearly crested the hill top. In both events, neighbors did help neighbors, no

lives were lost, and I hope you'll join in to help replant the gardens of Griffith Park.

On this round, We were lucky; our "A" team was **LAFD!!**

Be Prepared.

Maurece Chessè



## “Franklin Village” gets the Green Light



..... The idea began long before Hollywood-secession attempts, and finally, after years of requests to acknowledge our community uniqueness, Ann Debello got it done with the support of the Council Member Tom LaBonge and the City Council! (The Franklin Village runs from Bronson to Tamarind)



## OUR FAMILY OUR COMMUNITY OUR RESPONSIBILITY

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood

Blood  Drive

Sunday - May 20, 2007

8 am - Noon

Located in the Upper Terrace  
1760 N. Gower St. (near Yucca St.) - Hollywood, 90028

To sign-up, please call or e-mail Tanya Almor at:  
(323) 463-7161 ext. 223 talmor@fpch.org

Receive a T-Shirt with Your Donation

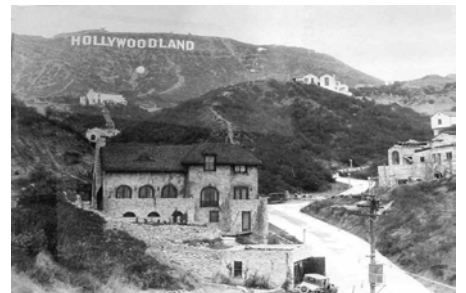
  
CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER  
Blood Services  
www.cedars-sinai.edu/blood

We Need **EVERYONE'S** Help For This Important Cause!

Please call Dave Keys at (310) 717-5996 if you have any questions about your eligibility to donate or if you're interested in hosting your own blood drive.



A Community Welcome to “The Lily Pad,” - an open air European flower shop located in Beachwood Village at 2700 Beachwood Drive. (In the courtyard of Hollywoodland Realty). Committed to bring new life and light to our community with extend efforts to give **back** to the neighborhood. Services include ... The freshest in classic and unusual flowers, Special Events, Local flower delivery, Custom exotic corsages, Meaningful Arrangements. Co owners Blaine Dunham & Shamin Alikhani are Beachwood locals and neighbors who wanted to create something new and fresh, while still staying true to the charm of the neighborhood. Regular hours are : Thursday thru Saturday, 10am til 5:00pm.



### Contact Your HUNC Representatives:

- President: Susan Swan - SSwanLA@gmail.com - work - 323-463-2463, Geographical District #3
- Vice-President: Maurece Chessè - Maurece@gmail.com - 323-461-2105 At-Large Unclassified (District#4)
- Recording Secretary: Charles Suhayda - csuhayda@fpch.org -323-463-7161 x 332 - Faith-Based Org Representative
- Corresponding Secretary: Jordan Birnbaum - JBirnbaum1@juno.com Business Representative District #B
- Treasurer: Gary Slossberg - garyslossberg@yahoo.com -Cell - 323 839-0929 - Education Org. Representative
- Ryan Ole Hass - ryanhunc@gmail.com -Renter Representative District #3
- Scott Larson - SLarson@chla.usc.edu - home - 323 466-7819 Homeowner Representative District #3
- Bree Long - breelong@gmail.com - At-Large Unclassified District #2
- Past President: Susan Polifronio - johncpt@earthlink.net - work- 323 957-7965 - Business Representative District #C
- Robert Abrahamian - Robert@robertscafe.com - work - 323 229-3758 Geographical District #5
- Bechir Blagui - bachra@gmail.com - Cell - 213-610-9720 Business Representative District #A
- Andrew Ettinger - Fax/Phone 323-464-6444 Geographical District 1
- Norma Foster - NFoster1539@earthlink.net - work - 323-460-7170 Renter Representative District #2
- Viktoria Gaw - KidKrazyinc@earthlink.net - home - 323-856-0168 Geographical District #2.
- Hilary Royce - hilaryr@scientology.net Non-Profit/Social Service Org. Rep.
- Erik Sanjurjo - gallegoboy@hotmail.com Geographical District #4
- David H Schlesinger - buzon@roadrunner.com Homeowner Representative District # 2

**Hollywood United Neighborhood Council General Information -**  
**info@HollywoodUnitedNC.org— Office 323 957-3784 Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 12:00pm .**

**Full Board Meetings are the 3rd Monday of every Month at 6:30 PM (unless a meeting date lands on a holiday) Location: Upper Terrace of First Presbyterian Church - (6054 Yucca at Gower)**

## Hollywood's Neighborhood Councils Join Hands

By Erik Sanjurjo

The first meeting of the Hollywood Coalition was held on April 19 and the featured speakers were new Department of Neighborhood Empowerment General Manager Carol Baker Tharp and her assistant General Manager, BongHwan (rhymes with Don Juan) Kim. The meeting was held at the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood. The Hollywood coalition is a joint effort of the Hollywood Hills West, Hollywood United, Greater Griffith Park, Central Hollywood, Studio District and East Hollywood neighborhood councils. Our goal is to increase collaboration among Hollywood area neighborhood councils on issues of regional importance.

Dr. Tharp mapped out where she and her department plan to take the neighborhood council system. A long-time veteran of community organizing, Tharp most recently served as the Director of Coro, an organization dedicated to teaching leadership skills to a diverse group of young people who have completed college and are interested in pursuing a career in public service. Tharp's main goal is to reorient DONE as an institution whose main role is to support and empower neighborhood councils and the communities they represent. Without mentioning her predecessor, the controversial Interim GM Lisa Sarno, Tharp made it clear that she and her employees will employ a less confrontational, more cooperative style of interaction.

This is not to say that Tharp plans to employ a *laissez faire* attitude toward neighborhood councils, a criticism frequently made of long-time GM Greg Nelson, who retired last year. Tharp wants to move toward more uniform bylaws by requiring that they all are ordered in the same manner and providing neighborhood councils with a set of pre-approved stock bylaw amendments that they can adopt.

Tharp also expressed an interest in working with the Hollywood area NCs to hold a single election for all groups interested in participating. This experiment could take place as soon as next year. AGM Kim stated that the department is working with the City Clerk to have them take over the election function from DONE, as it takes up a large percentage of their staffs' time and is not a core function.

Attendants of the meeting left with a better understanding of what the priorities are for the new management at DONE as well as what issues their neighborhood councils should be addressing. Future meetings of the Hollywood Coalition will include discussions of planning, transportation and open space. For more info, visit our website at [www.hollywoodunitednc.org](http://www.hollywoodunitednc.org) (Coalition site coming).

### Emergency Contacts

#### City of Los Angeles Emergency Contact Numbers

**Call 9-1-1 when there is a life or death emergency that requires the immediate response of emergency services such as police, fire or paramedic.**

Non-emergency Police.....	877-ASK-LAPD (877-275-5273)
TTY Service.....	213-847-0652
Park-related emergencies.....	323-913-7390
Water Service.....	800-342-5397 (24 hours)
Power Service.....	800-342-5397 (24 hours)
Gas Service.....	800-427-2200
Traffic Signals.....	213-580-1177
.....	213-485-2046 (after hours)
Road closures (Cal Trans).....	800-427-7623
Street Lights.....	800-303-5267 (24 hours)
American Red Cross Public Info....	213-739-5205 (24 hours)
Animal Services.....	888-452-7381 (24 hours)
Building Inspection.....	888-524-2845 (7:00a.m.—5:00p.m.)
Storm damage/mud slide reports....	888-524-2845 (7:00a.m.—5:00p.m.)
Refuse Collection.....	800-773-2489 (24 hours)
Sewer or storm drain problems.....	213-485-7575 or 213-485-5391 (6:30a.m.-1:00a.m. M-F)
.....	310-823-5507 (or) 310-822-0777 (1:00a.m.—6:30 a.m.)
Trees down/debris removal & related problems—	800-996-2489 (24 hours) or 3-1-1

If you need further assistance accessing City services, call the 3-1-1 Call Center by dialing 3-1-1 within City limits, toll free 24 hours a day, seven days a week or by logging onto the [www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org) and clicking on the **3-1-1 icon**.

# Hollywood United's PLUM Committee 2007

By David H. Schlessinger

Your PLUM Committee [Planning and Land Use Management] is faced with momentous responsibilities this year. The sudden and immense development that Hollywood is experiencing requires an overview and tracking by your Neighborhood Council, and that duty is delegated to the PLUM. The vast amount of demolition, building and change will create impacts on our community that will last for the next 100 years. It is obvious that the Hollywood we know will change. Whether that change will be controlled, studied and for the better is in part in our hands----now. Tomorrow will be too late. We must exert our influence to obtain order and preserve what we can of those qualities that make our lives here satisfying and gratifying. To that end we are endeavoring to marshal the interests and good offices of our neighboring Neighborhood Councils, which must share our concerns. The borders of the Councils define particular authority; problems, benefits and changes don't stop at those borders.

Among the many projects facing us in our Council District, or just over the line:

Conversion of the former Broadway Hollywood to condominiums \ New hotel at Hollywood Bl and Vine Street

1000 unit development at Hollywood Bl and Argyle \ Mixed use high-rise at South West Argyle/Yucca

Residential high rise at North East Argyle/Yucca \ Hollywood Tower expansion at Argyle/Franklin Av

Mixed-Use Condominiums on Vine St North of Hollywood Bl \ Hollywood Bl/Garfield Av mixed used development

That's not an exhaustive list, by a long shot, but it's representative of what's happening. How will our community support the thousands----literally----of new residents? Our streets are already choked with traffic. Will they provide parking? How will we manage with so many additional vehicles? We already have gridlock twice daily. Sewerage? Water? Gas? Electricity? Will not our existing system be overstressed in all of these departments? It is in the hands of our Neighborhood Council to assure us that these problems have been foreseen and solved before it's too late.

We have also to protect our patrimony in Griffith Park. Currently the newly renovated Planetarium is being promoted as a world-wide center for meetings, perhaps conventions. Is that what the Planetarium is all about? PLUM has been attending meetings, HUNC has expressed its dismay and opposition to making this, our gem, into a Disneyland feature. In this we are acting in concert with our neighbors, the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council.

Please, attend meetings of PLUM on the second Tuesday of the Month and express your views. **We must act!!!**

## “Photos of Community Volunteers Participating in the 3rd Annual Mayor’s Day of Service & L.A. River Clean Up 2007”



Have an article or event to share with YOUR community?!! Contact Bechir or Maurece.