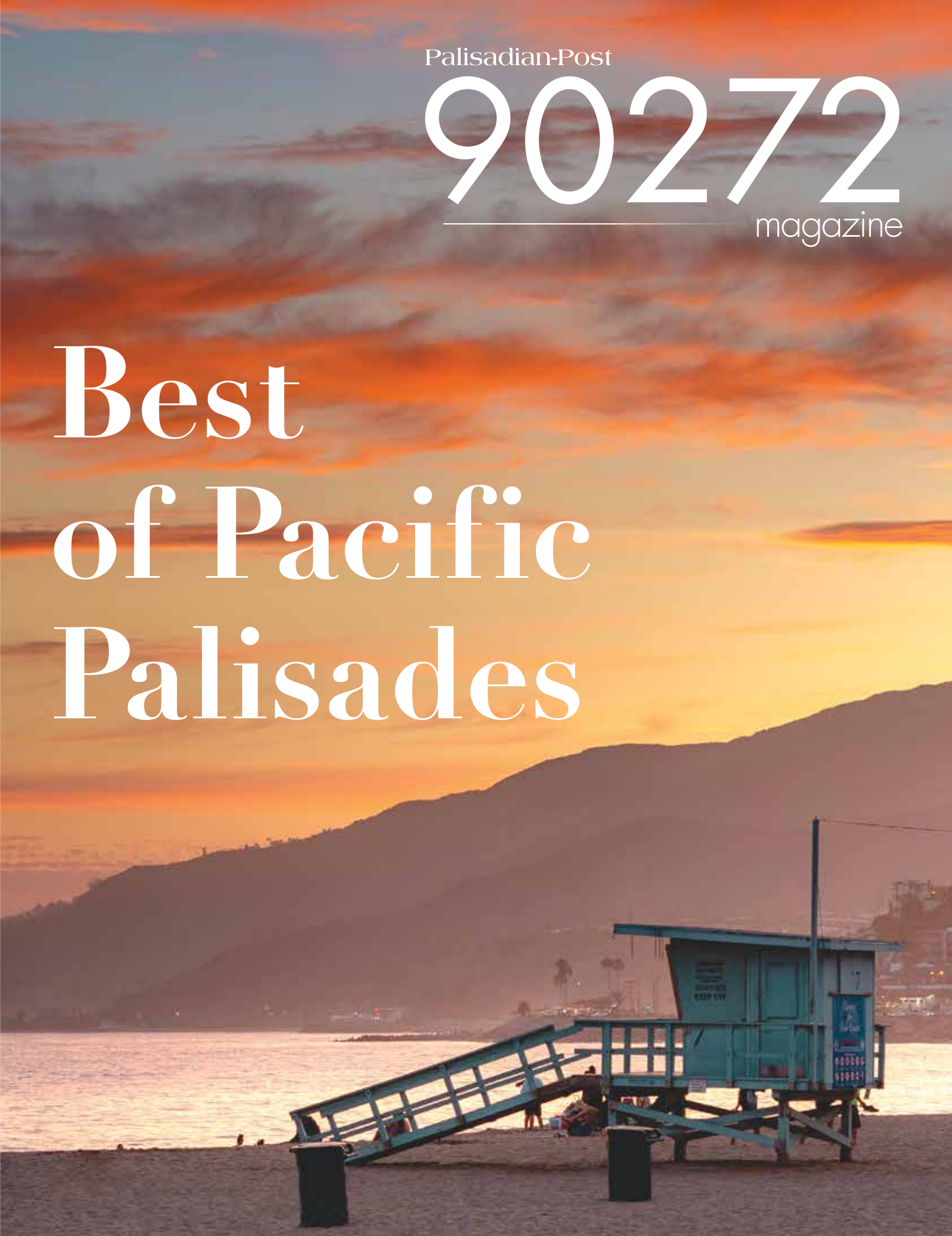


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90272
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Cover Photo: Shot by Sierra LeBaron (@likethemountains on Instagram) at the beach near Pacific Coast Highway and Temescal Canyon Road.

Best of Pacific Palisades

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Welcome to Pacific Palisades!

Anyone who has lived, played or spent time in Pacific Palisades can attest: There is something magical about this community.

It's not just the stellar views of the Pacific Ocean and the Santa Monica Mountains—though they certainly don't hurt—that makes the Palisades special. It comes down to the people, the places, the rich history, the organizations, and the beloved annual events and traditions.

Pacific Palisades was originally founded by Rev. Charles H. Scott in 1922, envisioning an extensive religious-intellectual commune. By the 1940s, the Palisades became a haven for those fleeing Nazi Germany, including Thomas Mann and his wife Katia.

Now, the Palisades boasts nearly 25,000 residents, a dozen schools, parks, the beach and more. The new Palisades Village adds to a list of retail and dining destinations and Palisadians are looking forward to the approaching opening of Potrero Canyon Park.

In this first-of-its-kind edition of 90272 Magazine, we wanted to share some of the highlights of the community, from taking a look at the distinct neighborhoods that make up the town to talking with the residents who have called the Palisades their home for many decades.

From Castellammare to Santa Monica Canyon, The Riviera to The Highlands, whether you're just passing through and looking for something to do or see or you're a longtime resident who is looking for a reminder of why you love it here, this edition covers it.

Want to see something featured in the next Best of Pacific Palisades edition? Send in ideas to mypost@palipost.com.

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Mapping the Palisades

Neighborhood by Neighborhood

By Lily Tinoco

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RICH SCHMITT





Rustic Canyon



Castellammare

Pacific Palisades encompasses a number of neighborhoods, all with their distinctive characteristics and feel. From panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean to surrounding wildlife, each neighborhood boasts a diverse offering.

The Riviera

Lined with streets reminiscent of the French and Italian Riviera—like Amalfi and San Remo Drive—this neighborhood is one of the most exclusive of the Palisades.

The Riviera is comprised of some of the most expensive and largest estates in the Palisades. Upper Riviera homes offer stunning city and mountain views.

Many esteemed individuals live in this area: celebrities, business and community leaders. Palisadian Andrew Sacks explained that Riviera residents are often “movers in society.”

The Riviera is off of Sunset, located next to The Riviera Country Club, on the east end of the Palisades.

Rustic Canyon

Rustic Canyon is a serene neighborhood found along Rustic Creek and Santa Monica Canyon.

The neighborhood is admired for its landscape and environment. It has its own source of natural springs that bring an abundance of trees (and shade), such as the California sycamore and coastal live oaks.

Rustic Canyon also offers varied architecture, from 1920s original homes to cottages from the 1940s and modern concrete abodes.

“Residents of the canyon are also varied,” Marilyn Wexler, the Pacific Palisades Com-

munity Council area representative of Rustic Canyon, said. “Young families, middle-aged couples and elderly folks all take enormous pride in this beautiful canyon.”

Rustic Canyon is also home to Rustic Canyon Recreation Center, which boasts a history that dates back to the 1920s as the former clubhouse and grounds of Uplifters Ranch.

The Huntington

Described as “one of the most beautiful residential neighborhoods you’ll see in any city” by the Huntington’s Area Representative David Kaplan, the Huntington Palisades is acclaimed for its large lots, wide streets and proximity to the ocean-view bluff.

The Huntington is located walking distance to Palisades Recreation Center, Palisades Branch Library and the Village area.

The neighborhood has mostly traditional-styled homes on flat lots.

Alphabet Streets

Once known as “North Village,” Alphabet Streets is one of the most popular neighborhoods in the Palisades.

The area was originally meant to house parishioners of a nearby Methodist Church, and its streets were named after bishops of the late 19th and early 20th century. Thus came its consecutively named

streets: Albright, Bashford, Carey, Drummond and so on.

Its proximity to The Village is one of its main lures.

“Being able to walk to the grocery store, shops, restaurants and now even the movies is such a great advantage,” said Robin Meyers, a resident of the Alphabet Streets. “My husband and I are always walking into town, I couldn’t live anywhere where I couldn’t do that.”

The Alphabet Streets neighborhood is esteemed for its charm, sense of community and original homes.

The Alphabet Streets are located right above Sunset Boulevard and below Rivas Canyon Park.

The Bluffs

The Bluffs is an area made up of Via De La Paz bluff homes and El Medio bluff homes, divided by Temescal Canyon Road.

The Via Bluffs is located to the east of The Huntington; El Medio Bluffs is located directly across Temescal Canyon. Both areas offer stunning ocean views right above Pacific Coast Highway, overlooking Santa Monica and Malibu.

A range of bungalows and more modern-styled homes, with very quiet streets can be found in the Bluffs.

Marquez Knolls

Marquez Knolls is a popular neighborhood for families.

Lower Marquez Knolls is conveniently located near Marquez Charter Elementary School on Marquez Avenue, and Upper Marquez Knolls offers city, ocean and mountain views.

“Perhaps most endearing is our connection to nature. My neighbors and I share our backyard with a sweet family of deer—and I know our friends in the streets above share their environs with a mountain lion or two,” said Palisadian Maryam Zar. “Marquez Knolls truly is a great little community within a great little community, and I can’t think of anyone who’d rather live anywhere else.”

Castellammare

Castellammare is uniquely situated on a mesa between the Santa Monica Mountains and Pacific Ocean, the quintessential location for a quiet, secluded, ocean-view neighborhood.

Similar to The Riviera’s Italian flair, the area was designed to be evocative of “Castellammare di Stabia”—a small town between Naples and Sorrento.

“The roads winding up the hillside ... the Italian street names and the Moorish-style homes originally built in the



Alphabet Streets



The Bluffs



community make it easy to believe you have left Los Angeles and landed on the Amalfi Coast,” said Cindi Young, president of the Castellammare Mesa Home Owners.

It has a high concentration of ocean-view homes, many of them set on a hillside overlooking the coast.

Castellammare is also home to the Getty Villa, an educational center and museum that showcases collections of ancient Greek and Roman art, and the historic Thelma Todd Sidewalk Cafe on Pacific Coast Highway.

The Highlands

The Highlands is particularly special as it is the most recent addition to the Palisades community. Prior to 1973, the now-neighborhood used to be untouched wilderness.

“There’s a newborn community in Pacific Palisades by

the sea: Palisades Highlands. When you enter this land of green-mantled slopes, trees, wildflowers and ocean-cooled climate, you’ll hardly believe you are still in Los Angeles,” read one of the ads found in the *Post* as early as September 7, 1972.

The Highlands is one of the few areas in the Palisades that has townhouses and condominiums. Later in its development, homes and estates were built along Avenida de Cortez, Avenida de Santa Ynez and Palisades Circle.

Every resident in The Highlands is a member of a homeowners association, according to area representative Steve Cron. Being a part of an HOA offers its community members access to common areas, such as pools, gyms and parks.

The Highlands is located in the hills, near the end of Sunset Boulevard

Sunset Mesa

Mesa—“table” in Spanish—appropriately describes this plateau. Sunset Mesa is a neighborhood of approximately 500 homes, located on a bluff top that overlooks Pacific Coast Highway, offering

ocean and beach views.

These homes emerged in the early 1960s, and residents can thank the original builders of the neighborhood for their uninterrupted ocean views. These builders worked to make that their top prior-



ity and cleverly placed utility lines underground.

This area is a blend of single-family homes and condominiums.

Sunset Mesa is known for being a quaint and quiet neighborhood, with no retail destinations and close proximity to the beach.

Paseo Miramar

Paseo Miramar has been described as an “upscale area” that falls between Castellammare and The Highlands. The neighborhood features small streets along a hillside—with luxury estate homes that mainly offer sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean.

There is also a Paseo Miramar Trail, a 4.9-mile out-and-back trek, that falls into Topanga State Park. The route, which has an elevation gain over 1,200 feet, leads to scenic views and has been ranked as moderate.

Pacific View Estates

The Pacific View Estates neighborhood is situated next

to the Sunset Mesa community to the north and Castellammare and the Getty Villa to the south. This neighborhood features small, winding roads that lead up a hillside.

Due to thick landscaping, some of the homes near the top of the hill have limited views—but at the top, the views have been described as “truly amazing.”

The homes within this community are walking distance to the beach.

Bienveneda

The Bienveneda neighborhood aptly falls along Bienveneda Avenue—neighbored by Temescal Gateway Park and Marquez Knolls. The area falls into what the Pacific Palisades Community Council dubbed Area 3, which also encompasses Marquez Knolls, Saint Matthew’s School and the Bel Air Bay Club.

Santa Monica Canyon

Santa Monica Canyon, which, despite its name, falls



Marquez Knolls

within the city of Los Angeles, is bordered by the city of Santa Monica, the Pacific Ocean, Chautauqua Drive/Sunset Boulevard and The Riviera Country Club.

The Santa Monica Canyon Civic Association, which was incorporated in 1946, is one of the oldest communi-

ty organizations throughout the state. The association was designed to represent the “interests of residents to all relevant governments on issues that impact the canyon and its residents,” according to the organization’s website.

Streets that fall into Santa Monica Canyon, which is



The Riviera

home to Canyon Charter Elementary School, include East Channel Road, Entrada Drive and Latimer Road.

Tahitian Terrace & Palisades Bowl

Located along Pacific Coast Highway, the Tahitian Terrace and Palisades Bowl mobile home parks offer easy access to Will Rogers State Beach.

Tahitian Terrace, which was built in 1963 with the idea of “terracing” to capture ocean views, offers approximately 250 manufactured homes within the community. There is a clubhouse located on-site, with a heated pool, hot tub and weight room with cardio equipment. The community is also dog friendly, with a dog run for pets to exercise.

Homeowners within the terrace do not own the land, which is private-

ly owned, and instead rent.

The Palisades Bowl boasts affordable living near the beach, with easy access to bike trails and just four miles away from the Santa Monica Pier. The oceanside community offers a pool, jacuzzi, club house—and beautiful sunsets.

Lower Las Casas

The Lower Las Casas neighborhood extends from Sunset Boulevard to Pacific Coast Highway, encompassing the area between El Medio Bluffs and Castellammare.

It falls into the Pacific Palisades Community Council’s Area 3, which includes Marquez Knolls, Saint Matthew’s School and the Bel Air Bay Club.

One community member described the loop below Sunset as a great place to trick or treat.



The Highlands



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Fourth of July

Happenings Around Town

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RICH SCHMITT

On any given day, there is no shortage of things to do in the Palisades. Here is a list of annual events—some relatively new traditions, some tried and true—that community members look forward to each year.



PPBA Pancake Breakfast

The Pacific Palisades Baseball Association kicks off each springtime season with a Pancake Breakfast/Opening Day Ceremonies at Palisades Recreation Center—the only fundraiser the association organizes.

The first pitch of the year is made by a celebrity, with past opening pitchers including Antonio Gates and Keanu Reeves.

Tickets, which cost \$5 per person, cover pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit, coffee and juice. All funds raised go to the Field of Dreams Fund, which helps pay for field maintenance.

The 2020 PPBA Pancake Breakfast will take place on Saturday, March 14, from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Grants Night

To date, the Pacific Palisades Woman's Club has supported local organizations with \$1.5 million in grants in four categories: Arts & Recreation, Community & Charitable Groups, Education and Beautification.

The Woman's Club hosts an annual Grants Night on the first Tuesday in March—this year, March 3—where many organizations receive a chunk of money to help fund their programming throughout the year.



Eggstravaganza

“We welcome requests for funding from nonprofit organizations that provide services and programs that benefit the Palisades community,” the PPWC’s website reports.

The PPWC raises funds through various annual events, including the Spring Fashion Show & Luncheon (March 10), a Rummage Sale (March 28), Wine Tasting and Art Show in October, and the Holiday Boutique (November 7).

Eggstravaganza

Hundreds of Palisadians hop on down to Palisades Recreation Center the

weekend before Easter for the annual Eggstravaganza—a nearly decade-long tradition. Festivities include arts and crafts, face painting, games, prizes, and a visit from the Spring Bunny, who arrived in 2019 on a Los Angeles Fire Department fire truck.

The fun returns in October when the Palisades Recreation Center hosts its annual Spooktacular event.

90th Birthday Party

A timeless tradition, community members who are 90 years and older are invited to celebrate at the Pacific



Grants Night



Pumpkin Patch

Palisades Woman’s Club annual birthday party, which takes place near the start of summer—this year on Saturday, June 6.

The event began in 1996 in former PPWC President Dr. Margaret Jones-Kanaar’s backyard on Via De La Paz after she had just turned 92. Jones-Kanaar organized a huge birthday celebration, which all the town’s 90-year-olds attended, as well as then-Honorary Mayor Ed-die Albert.

Each year, the oldest male and female attendees are crowned king and queen of the celebration.

Youth YMCA Track Meet

The YMCA Youth Track Meet, sponsored by the Optimist Club of Pacific Palisades, celebrated its 47th year in 2019.

Kids ages 3 to 15 competed in a variety of track and field events, including short runs, long jump and shot put—all at the Carl Lewis Track at Palisades Charter High School’s Stadium by the Sea.

Fourth of July

There is nothing quite like Fourth of July in Pacific Palisades. A fun-filled day kicks off with the annual Palisades Will Rogers 5 and 10K Run, before community members line the streets for the annual parade—which will celebrate 72 years in 2020.

The day concludes with a concert and fireworks, Palisades Rocks the Fourth, which features local musicians, food, fun and family.

Movies in the Park

A summer-time tradition at Palisades Recreation Center, Movies in the Park hosted its 16th season in 2019.

Golden Sparkplug Award-winning Movies in the Park is a nonprofit organization that was founded in August 2003 by Alphabet Streets resident David Williams to provide free family fun to the Palisades.

Each Sunday in the month of August, a different movie is screened at the park, with previous shows including “The Wizard of Oz,” “Finding Nemo” and “Incredibles 2.”



Movies in the Park

Block Parties

Come fall time, the Palisades gears up for Block Party season, with celebrations taking place in communities across town, including The Huntington, Marquee Knolls and Lower Bienvenida.

Each party allows neighbors to mingle and catch up, while snacking on a variety of foods, from hot dogs to In-N-Out and more.

Pumpkin Patch

Each October, the Palisades-Malibu YMCA hosts an annual Pumpkin Patch at Simon Meadow Park, located at the corner of Temescal Canyon Road and Sunset Boulevard.

For more than 40 years, the Y has hosted a pumpkin patch to give Palisadians a local haunt to purchase their pumpkins while raising funds to support year-round programs.

The patch offers a range of all different sizes, shapes, colors and prices—starting at \$2 and going up to \$100.

“All of the money stays here in the community,” Palisades-Malibu YMCA Executive Director Jim Kirtley explained in 2019, adding that some visitors don’t even realize the patch is a YMCA fundraiser.

Proceeds will benefit various financial assistance programs, including help with camp, Youth and Government, membership and more.

Turkey Trot

Before Palisadians sit down for a Thanksgiving meal, hundreds of racers make their way to the annual Pacific Palisades Turkey Trot, a 5 or 10 K race that will celebrate eight years in 2020.

In 2019, a portion of proceeds raised at the trot benefited Hearts With Hope, which brings medical, dental and administrative care to children living with congenital heart disease across the world, and local firefighters at LAFD Stations 23 and 69.

Palisades Village Tree Lighting

One of the newer traditions that Palisadians participate in is the annual Tree Lighting at Palisades Village, which took place for the second year in a row in 2019 toward the end of November. The first tree lighting arrived a couple of months after the development opened in September 2018.

Each year, hundreds of community members and visitors gather in the Park area of Palisades Village and watch performances and hear brief addresses from local politicians, including Councilmember Mike Bonin and Honorary Co-Mayors Billy and Janice Crystal.

Santa Claus then takes the stage and counts down the lighting of the tree, which stands at 50 feet tall.

YMCA Tree Lot

For many community members, picking out the perfect Christmas tree is an annual tradition—and the YMCA Christmas Tree Lot offers a plethora of options throughout the month of December.

The lot, in Simon Meadow Park, showcases a collection of trees, from table-top size to 15-foot, in 2019 featuring three types of Nobles: Nordmann Fir, Vintages and Standard.

And, much like the pumpkin patch, funds raised benefit the Palisades-Malibu YMCA.

Holiday Stroll

Returning for the second year in a row in 2019, the Pacific Palisades Chamber of Commerce hosts an annual Holiday Stroll in the beginning of December.

Attendees last year were encouraged to collect stamps from featured businesses, with a chance to win prizes. The stroll



PPBA Pancake Breakfast

also brought back a tree-decorating element, with first place awarded to BOCA.

The 2020 Holiday Stroll will take place on Friday, December 4.

Menorah Lighting

Chabad of Pacific Palisades celebrated 31 years of Palisades Unity Menorah Lighting in 2019—which, for the second year in a row, took place outside of the Bay Theatre in Palisades Village. Festivities included face painting, balloon twisting, Hanukkah-themed crafts and kosher food, as well as performances by local schools.

In 2019, the ceremony highlighted themes of gratitude, unity and education.

Holiday Ho! Ho! Ho!

Palisadian Lisa Glantz, who was awarded a Golden Sparkplug from the Pacific Palisades Community Council for her commitment to continuing the Ho! Ho! Ho! tradition when it was in jeopardy of ending after six decades, shared that she was inspired to save it after hearing that Santa was not showing up. She said that she “couldn’t let the children be disappointed.”

The Ho! Ho! Ho! found a new home at the YMCA Tree Lot in 2019.

Awards Celebration & Holiday Meeting

The Pacific Palisades Community Council wraps up each year with an Awards Celebration & Holiday Meeting, which took place at the Pacific Palisades Woman’s Club in 2019.

PPCC hands out Golden Sparkplug and Citizen of the Year awards, and, when appropriate, the Pride of the Palisades Award.

In 2019, George Wolfberg was awarded Pride of the Palisades; Lisa Glantz, Don Camacho and Mike Lanning were named Golden Sparkplugs; and Kevin Niles took home Citizen of the Year.



Menorah Lighting



Turkey Trot

Neighborhood Favorites

The results are in: *90272 Magazine* polled the community to see what some of their favorite dishes are at restaurants across the Palisades. From Italian to Indian and everything in between, here are some of the top choices.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RICH SCHMITT

Meatballs at Casa Nostra





Avocado Garden Sandwich

Café Vida

Known across its three locations for low-fat California and Latin dishes, Café Vida focuses on “simple cooking that tastes great, looks great and makes you feel good.”

The Palisades iteration, located in the heart of the Village on Antioch Street, has three menus available, breakfast, lunch and dinner, offering everything from salads to burgers, fresh-squeezed juices and more.

Some of the most popular sandwiches include the Avocado Garden Sandwich—with avocado, shredded carrots, sprouts, tomatoes, red onions, jack cheese, lettuce and mayo served on multigrain bread—and the White Albacore Tuna Melt—albacore tuna salad, Tillamook cheddar, grilled onions and avocado on a grilled spinach tortilla. Each sandwich comes with a choice of organic greens, Caesar

salad, French fries or sweet potato fries.

Another highly rated choice is the Warm Café Salad, crafted with avocado, red onion, chopped tomatoes, Spanish brown rice, hot sauce and Caesar dressing served over baby spinach and romaine hearts. Protein choices include grilled chicken breast, roasted tofu or filet mignon tips.

Casa Nostra Ristorante

Located within The Highlands on Palisades Drive, Casa Nostra Ristorante, established in 2009, serves a range of Italian dishes—from Antipasti to Dolci Di Casa Nostra.

As you take in the scent of the authentic Italian kitchen mingling with the salt air, you can almost believe you are in a coastal town like Livorno. Peer out the windows of the dining room and the views could masquerade as distinctly



Orecchiette alla Boscaiola



Beef with Broccoli



Buridda

Tuscan—tiled rooftops, mountains punctuated with cypress trees ... sip a glass of Super Toscani wine and now you're really buying into the illusion.

Local favorite dishes include the Orecchiette alla Boscaiola—Italian sausage and mushrooms served in a white wine sauce—and Meatballs. Other top contenders were Tortellini Di Zucca, pumpkin stuffed with brown butter and sage, and Pappardelle D'Anatra, wide noodles pasta in a braised duck ragu.

Casa Nostra is open daily for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and dinner from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Cathay Palisades

When Palisadians described Cathay Palisades, they commented on how welcoming and friendly everyone at the restaurant is—with the owners taking the time to get to know the names of their patrons.

Cathay specializes in preparing Mandarin-style Chinese cuisine, known for strong and bold flavors.

Though some votes were “everything on the menu,” two of the top dishes were the Assorted Wonton Soup and Beef with Broccoli. Restaurant specialties include Cathay Duck, boneless, crispy half duck and steamed buns with Hoisin sauce on the side, and Lemon Scallop, scallops and assorted vegetables sauteed in a lemon brown sauce, served on a sizzling plate.

Cathay Palisades has been an Antioch Street mainstay, in operation for more than three decades.

“By using new cooking techniques and methods, we have updated classic Chinese dishes to be healthier and more enjoyable for the modern palate,” the Cathay website reads.

CinqueTerre WEST Osteria

A relative newcomer to the Palisades, CinqueTerre WEST Osteria has already made an impact on locals—quickly becoming a go-to favorite.

The restaurant, run by Palisadians Gianbattista “Gianba” and Marlo Vinzoni, a husband and wife team who have lived in Lower Las Casas for 15 years, operates in the space formerly occupied by Pinocchio in Cucina.

Gianba brings with him more than 25 years of experience, starting as a dishwasher and working at several Los Angeles hot spots, including Soho House and Beverly Hilton Hotel. His latest job was executive chef at Fig and Olive.

He was inspired to open his own place in



HOURS OF OPERATION

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Lime Cilantro Chicken Salad



Bacon Avocado Cheeseburger & Bacon Cheese Fries

PHOTO BY JAMES KWON

the Palisades because of the family-friendly atmosphere.

“I love the fact that there are a lot of families,” Gianba shared. “I’m from Italy—family, for us, is everything.”

Favorite menu offerings include Buridda: a traditional Ligurian fish stew, chock-full of seafood, including scallops, mussels and clams. The broth is light and flavorful, perfect for scooping up with a house-made crostini.

Pappardelle alla Bolognese features large, broad, flat pasta ribbons, covered in a hearty bolognese sauce. CinqueTerre WEST’s version of bolognese omits pork, instead highlighting beef and veal.

Kayndaves

Kayndaves was started in 1991 when Dave gave up law and bought a run-down cantina on Pacific Coast Highway. He had never worked in a restaurant nor managed staff so he simply tried to create the type of place he liked—friendly, attentive staff, good quality dishes and reasonable prices.

Closed for a chunk of time for renovations in the late 2010s, the Sunset Boulevard iteration is back and better than ever.

“We serve Mexican food,” the Kayndaves website explains. “Our ingredients are fresh. Our sauces, salsas and soups are made daily. And we try always to offer good quality at a fair price.”

Particularly crowded during lunchtime, the restaurant offers \$9 soup and salad combos, with items like Kale Nachos, Chili Relleno or a Taco.

Two community favorites are the Lime Cilantro Chicken Salad, with lime-cilantro-marinated chicken, romaine, avocado and tomato, and Chicken Suiza Enchiladas: two enchiladas suiza served with black beans, rice, avocado, crema and pico de gallo.

Palisades Garden Café

Located in the Village where Alma Real Drive crosses La Cruz Drive, Palisades Garden Café is a local favorite joint that can satisfy any craving: from breakfast burritos to brownies, burgers and more.

With James Kwon at the helm, Palisades Garden Café starts off each morning by baking savory pastries and brewing freshly ground coffee beans.

“Whether ordering for yourself, a group or catering for a large event, Palisades Garden Café is the perfect place to have your next meal,” the restaurant’s website reads.

In addition to serving fare to Palisadians, Palisades Garden Café also sponsors local schools, clubs and organizations, PPBA little



Healthy California Cuisine

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Makimoto Roll



Pappardelle alla Bolognese

league and the Pacific Palisades Chamber of Commerce, as well as the *Palisadian-Post's* annual Pacific Palisades Teen Talent Contest.

A crowd favorite, the Veggie Burger comes with sprouts, avocado, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onion and thousand island dressing. A popular sandwich is the BLT, stacked high with crispy bacon, lettuce, tomato and mayo.

For the ultimate comfort food, try the Bacon Avocado Cheeseburger or a side of Bacon Cheese Fries.

Pearl Dragon

Pearl Dragon started serving Palisadians from its Sunset Boulevard spot when it opened in 2000.

“As a part of the Palisades community, we know that health, sustainability and social responsibility are important to our guests because they are important to us, our families and future generations,” the Pearl Dragon website reads.

The signature Makimoto Roll—the name-sake behind Makimoto Mondays, available every Monday as well as nightly from 5 to 6 p.m.—is a colorful, snaking sushi roll packed tight with California crab, spicy tuna and tempura asparagus, topped with garlic-seared tuna and avocado.

Another favorite is the Surf & Turf, with shrimp and asparagus tempura with avocado, wrapped in seared, rare filet mignon, topped with garlic and chopped white onion.

Outside of Asian fare, a Pearl Dragon favorite is the Wing Ding Burger, a half-pound sirloin patty topped with lettuce, tomato, white onion, dill pickles and dressing, served with thin fries. The burger carries historic importance and a connection to the location’s storied past as a classic holdover from House of Lee’s menu.

Porta Via Palisades

One of the handful of restaurants in Caruso’s Palisades Village, Porta Via Palisades is a spin-off of Peter Garland’s classic upscale casual bistro, which has been operating in Beverly Hills for over 25 years.

In Pacific Palisades, Porta Via (“take away” in Italian) serves a handful of appetizers, from Burrata with Heirloom Tomato to Sauteed Calamari—but a popular way to kickstart a meal would be to indulge in Steamed Mussels, a heaping miniature mountain of Prince Edward Island black mussels with shallots, chopped tomatoes and fresh herbs, white wine and a fromage-blasted crostini.

Another favorite dish is the Porta Via Butter Lettuce Salad, a gluten-free offering with sweet Maui onion, fresh dill and chervil, avocado and feta served over butter lettuce and topped with shallot vinaigrette.



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Warm Café Salad



Assorted Wonton Soup

Taste at the Palisades

Taste at the Palisades arrived at Highlands Plaza in 2009—by way of a Melrose Avenue location, which first opened in 2005.

The Palisades location benefited from the West Hollywood-based original's decade-long trial and error. In 2017, Taste went through an overhaul, including a re-do and expansion of its interior and an updated menu.

Some local favorites include White Truffle Oil and Mushroom Mac & Cheese—crafted with a buttery, white-cheese flavor. It has been described as “a terrific twist on standard comfort food.” The Mac & Cheese is served as a stand-alone shared dish or as a side, accompanying dishes like the Caramelized Cumin Spiced Pork Chop.

On the lighter side, the Blackened Salmon Salad, also a favorable choice, features natural salmon, fresh herbs, slow-roasted tomato, capers, goat cheese and shallot vinaigrette, served over organic mixed greens.

In addition to lunch, brunch, dinner, happy hour and delivery, Taste recently debuted Fried Chicken Sunday.

Taj Palace

For nearly three decades, Taj Palace has been providing Palisadians with Indian food at its Sunset Boulevard location.

“You will want to make this one of your favorite spots, hitting it every time you get the urge for the rich flavors of traditional Indian dishes,” the restaurant’s website reads, adding that they offer “extremely reasonable” prices.

Though several community members said their favorite dish is anything on the menu, Chicken Tikka Masala was a popular hit. Taj Palace’s dish features boneless pieces of chicken, made in a tomato and yogurt sauce.

In addition to a plethora of chicken, lamb and seafood curries, Taj Palace boasts an extensive Vegetarian Delights menu, which are also gluten free.

Thai Vegan III

Thai Vegan III, located on Sunset Boulevard near Pacific Coast Highway, boasts “delicious dining.”

“Our Thai restaurant offers its modern interpretation of classic dishes and its insistence on only using high-quality, fresh vegan ingredients,” Thai Vegan’s website explains.

Pad Thai, a fan favorite, includes rice noodles, pad Thai sauce, bean sprout and green onion. A second popular noodle dish is Soy Sauce Noodle, with rice noodles, broccoli and mushroom sauce.



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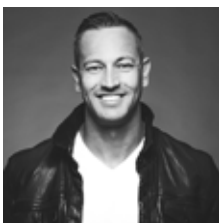
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PACIFIC PALISADES | \$11,500,000
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748 AMALFI DRIVE
PACIFIC PALISADES | \$13,950,000
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8,273 SQ. FT. | 16,957 SQ. FT. LOT



656 LACHMAN LANE
PACIFIC PALISADES | \$6,850,000
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5,959 SQ. FT. | 8,816 SQ. FT. LOT



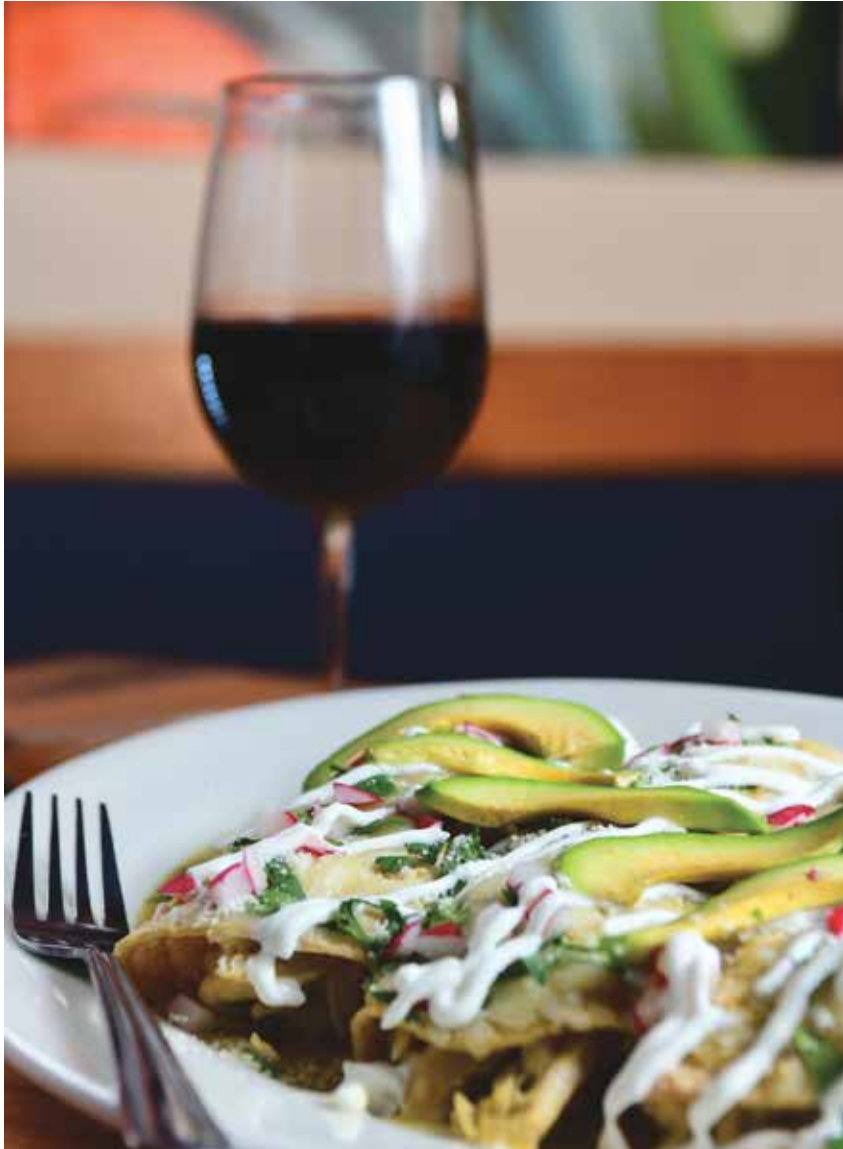
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Pad Thai

PHOTO BY SARAH SHMERLING



Chicken Suiza Enchiladas

Off the main course menu is Orange Chicken, soy chicken, orange and orange sauce, and Sweet & Shrimp, soy shrimp with green and white onion, carrot, squash, and tomato.

Vittorio's

One thing that Palisadians have on their mind when they think of Vittorio's Ristorante & Pizzeria is a garlic roll—or three or four.

The family-friendly restaurant, located in the Marquez Knolls neighborhood, has been family-owned and operated since 1984.

“Nestled in the hills of Pacific Palisades, we have catered to generations of families and Hollywood stars with our home-style Southern Italian cuisine,” Vittorio's website reads. “We are committed to authentic and richly flavored dishes. Our fresh seafood and succulent veal and chicken dishes allow everyone a taste of the old country in a friendly, warm atmosphere.”

In addition to the garlic rolls, Palisadians find themselves craving the Seafood Salad—marinated whitefish, salmon, shrimp, calamari and lobster in a vinaigrette dressing tossed with fresh greens, topped with diced tomatoes and celery.

Gone ... But Not Forgotten

Though these are restaurants of Palisades' past, when polled what their favorite dish of all-time to eat in town is, community members fondly recalled pizza from Barerra's, any sandwich at Mort's, Tortilla Soup from Mayberry and House of Lee's Ginger Chicken, Hot Orange Chicken and Mai Tais.



Surf & Turf Roll



Steamed Mussels



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Palisades Village

PHOTO BY RICH SCHMITT

A Day in the Palisades

Have some
time to spare?
Visit or revisit one
of these local gems.

By *Lily Tinoco*

Palisades Village

Palisades Village is an outdoor commercial redevelopment by Rick Caruso, known for The Grove and The Americana at Brand, that opened September 2018 and is located in the heart of Pacific Palisades at Sunset Boulevard and Swarthmore Avenue.

The venue features over 40 shops and boutiques, eateries, and the revived Bay Theatre, Cinépolis Luxury Cinemas' tribute to the original.

The retail experience was designed to be reflective of the Palisades and to fit in with the local community. Shops are intimate and boutique-sized, including Chanel Beauté, Buck Mason and Village Optic.

Notably, over half of the businesses in the Village are woman-owned, including Lauren Conrad and Hannah Skvarla's The Little Market, townie by elysewalker, Jennifer Meyer Jewelry and Zimmerman.

Other stores include all-organic Erewhon Market and the physical extension of Amazon.com, Amazon Books.

Food offerings include dining at Porta Via Palisades, The Draycott and Hank's; sweet treats from McConnell's Fine Ice Creams, Sweet Laurel and See's Candies.

The legendary Bay Theatre was closed in late-1978 but has been revived as a luxury cinema with reserved seating and call buttons for full food and bar service.

Palisades Village is also the first commercial district in the state of California to earn LEED Gold Certification based on its water efficiency, energy consumption, materials, resources and design. The development projects a shift toward sustainability and takes pride in being a “Green Village.”

Pacific Palisades Farmers Market

The Pacific Palisades Farmers Market sets up shop weekly at Palisades Charter High School, located at 15777 Bowdoin Street, every Sunday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The original market operated for years along Swarthmore Avenue and Sunset, but was relocated to accommodate construction at Palisades Village.

Shoppers can find an assortment of goods, from local fresh produce and seasonal bites to hand-woven rugs and succulents.

Residents are continuously grateful for the opportunity to shop for these delicacies in close proximity to their homes and at an affordable price point.

Self-Realization Fellowship

The Self-Realization Fellowship Lake Shrine sits on a hilltop off Sunset Boulevard in Pacific Palisades and features a temple, a shrine and meditation gardens, “offering people from around the world a quiet oasis for meditation, prayer,” according to its website. It is a meditation sanctuary and home to a family of monks.

Before it was officiated as such, it used to belong to H. Everett McElroy, who dreamed of creating a “coastal paradise,” leaving behind landmarks such as a double-deck houseboat and authentic model of a Dutch windmill.

The Lake Shrine is now part of a fellowship that was founded by Paramahansa Yogananda, who



Self-Realization Fellowship

PHOTO BY RICH SCHMITT



Pacific Palisades Farmers Market

PHOTO BY SARAH SHMERLING

acquired the property and envisioned the creation of a spiritual and serene environment. Yogananda was an Indian monk and yogi who dedicated the last years of his life in America introducing people to his teachings.

Scenic lakeside Meditation Gardens with waterfalls and animal life can be found at the Shrine. Two waterfalls feed into Lake Shrine, a home for swans, ducks, turtles and koi. Its lush gardens and lily ponds create a picturesque location, alongside its historical shrines and temples.

The Temple holds weekly lecture services and devotional events, while the Golden Lotus Archway is considered a “wall-less temple” and is reminiscent of a lotus flower, which symbolizes “the awakening of the soul to its infinite potential” in India, according to the website.

Mahatma Gandhi’s World Peace Memorial, a picturesque temple in honor of Gandhi that holds a portion of his ashes encased in a brass and silver coffer, is also located at Lake Shrine.

The best time to visit this scenic retreat is generally in the spring and summer to enjoy its gardens in bloom. The Meditation Gardens are open daily except Mondays and holidays, while the Temple is open only on Sundays.



Pacific Palisades Farmers Market

PHOTO BY RICH SCHMITT



Self-Realization Fellowship

PHOTO BY RICH SCHMITT

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On Location at Pali High

Even if you have not been to Palisades Charter High School, you may recognize the campus from one of the many times it was featured on the big and small screen.



'Freaky Friday'

In July 2018, *Disney Channel* premiered the much-anticipated "Freaky Friday," starring Heidi Blickenstaff and Cozi Zuehlsdorff as the body-exchanging mother and daughter, respectively.

Yet that wasn't the first attempt to remake the 1976 Disney classic, which starred Jodie Foster.

In 2003, a feature-film version, starring Pacific Palisades resident Jamie Lee Curtis, proved a big hit at the multiplexes, and chunks of this version of "Freaky Friday" were shot on campus.

At the beginning of the comedy, Anna Coleman (Lindsay Lohan) is seen attending Sunset Ridge High School; its signage clearly topping Pali High's Bowdoin Street entrance. The movie proved a hit: On a budget of \$20 million, Mark S. Waters' "Freaky Friday" grossed a whopping \$160 million domestically.

'Coming Home'

Hal Ashby, the legendary filmmaker who left his mark with such quirky classics as "The Last Detail," "Harold and Maude" and "Being There," filmed several scenes of his most critically lauded movie at Pali High.

The 1978 Academy Award-sweeper "Coming Home," starring Jane Fonda, Jon Voight, Bruce Dern and Robert Carradine, was nominated for eight Academy Awards, including Best Picture, resulting in three Oscars: Best Actress (Fonda), Best Actor (Voight) and Best Original Screenplay (Waldo Salt and Robert C. Jones).

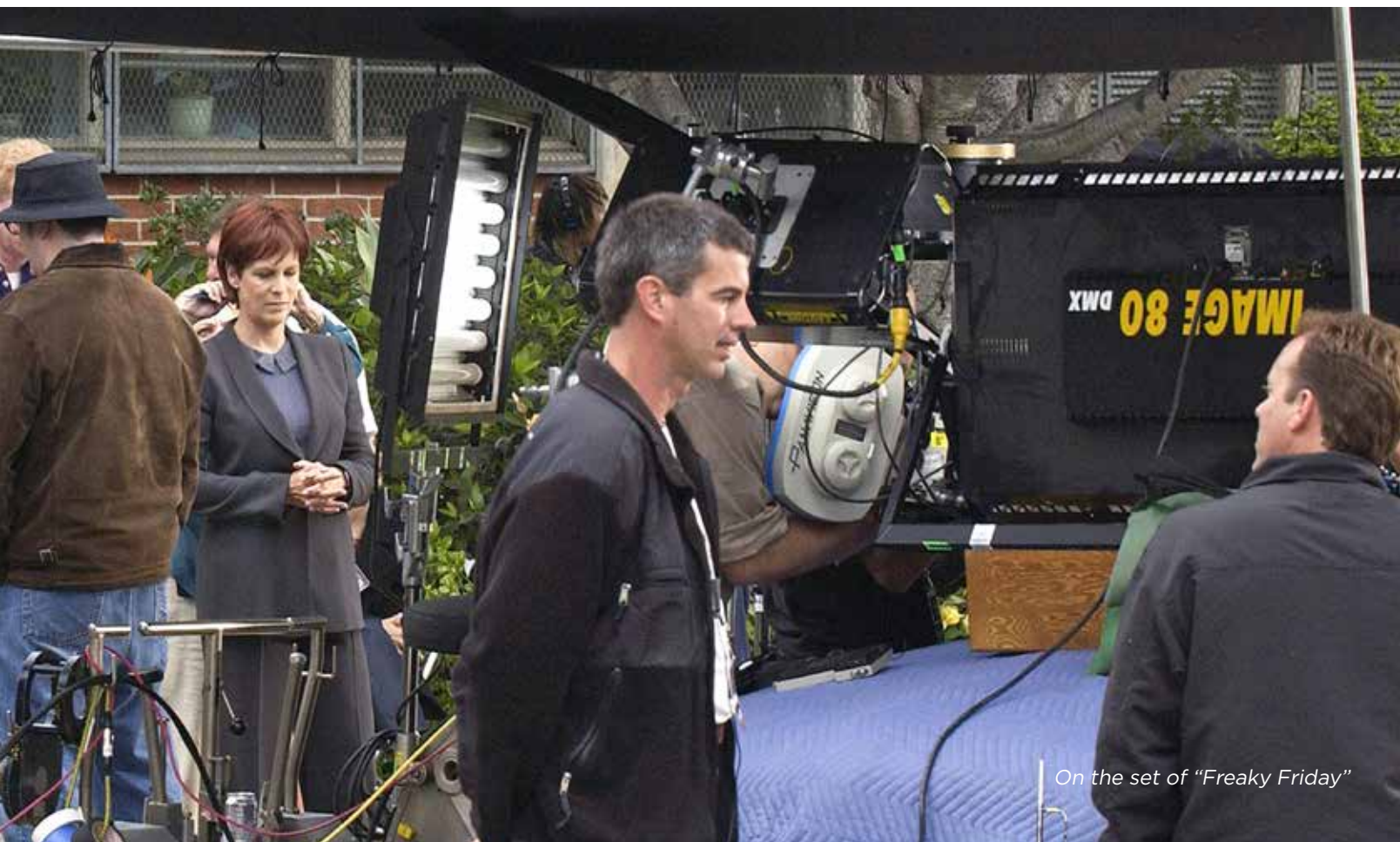
Ashby filmed inside the high school's multi-purpose room (today Mercer Hall), utilizing iconic cinematographer Haskell Wexler, fresh off of his 1976 Oscar win for "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

'Saved by the Bell'

By the 1980s, Pali High even had a small-screen avatar: Bayside High. While the school where characters such as Screech and Zack Morris attended in "Saved by the Bell" was technically called Bayside, the part of Los Angeles in which they lived was known as "the Palisades."

During the final TV movie, "Wedding in Las Vegas," the front entrance of Pali High was filmed when Zack, Slater and Screech returned for a visit.

An upcoming reboot of the show will air on *NBC's* new streaming service, Peacock. Elizabeth Berkley and Mario Lopez will both return to their roles. In the reboot, a group of low-income high school students in California are transferred to Bayside High as part of a program designed by California Governor Morris.



On the set of "Freaky Friday"



"Freaky Friday" at Pali High

PHOTOS BY RICH SCHMITT

Coheed and Cambria

Alternative rock band Coheed and Cambria filmed the lead single for their album on the Bowdoin campus. When the New York-based progressive rock band decided to release the irreverent, high-energy rocker "You've Got Spirit, Kid" as the first single off 2015's "The Color Before the Sun," they needed a high-energy video to accompany it.

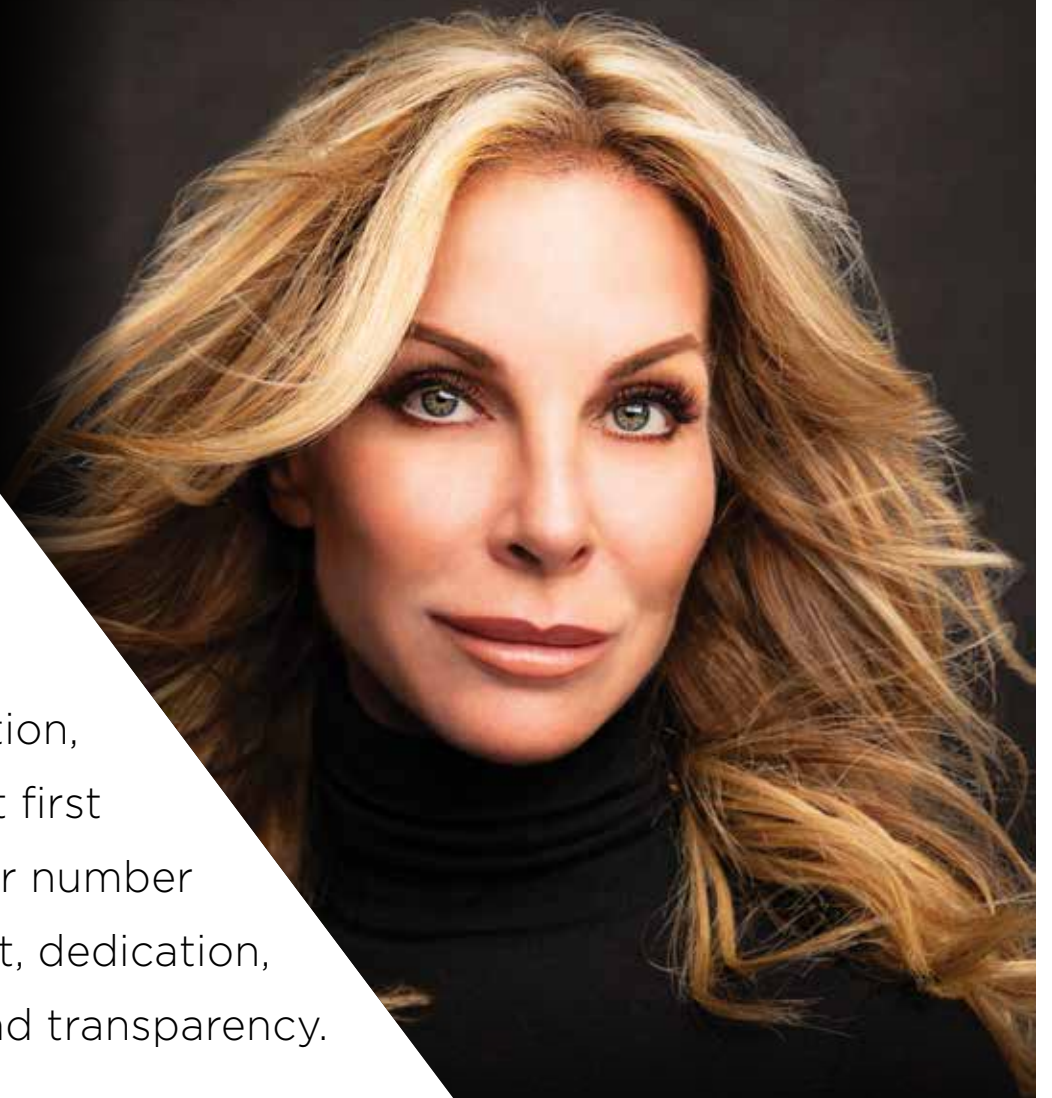
When the band rolled with a nod to Amy Heckerling's 1980 classic "Fast Times at Ridgemont High," director Djay Brawnner shot their video at Pali High.

"That's a high school that they use for quite a few shoots for movies and TV," lead guitarist Travis Stever told the *Palisadian-Post* in 2015 of their video, which also referenced "The Goonies," "Explorers," John Hughes' dramedies and "Revenge

of the Nerds."

According to Stever, the whole shoot took place across a tight weekend. Coheed and Cambria flew in, shot on campus and headed back east on a redeye by Sunday night.

"It was all-around fun," Stever said of the shoot. "It never felt like it was dragging. If a gag got a good reaction or made us laugh, it got in."



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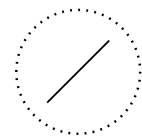
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COMPASS





A Rich History

Looking for something that is both fun and educational? Check out these places, chock-full of history and things to learn—all located within the Palisades or a short drive away.



By Jennika Ingram



The Getty Villa, pictured here and left
PHOTOS COURTESY OF J. PAUL GETTY TRUST



Eames House

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE EAMES FOUNDATION

The Getty Villa

J. Paul Getty wanted a place to put his antiquities collection and designed The Getty Villa in the style of an ancient Roman country house in 1970.

The grounds of the museum make a trip worthwhile, but the contents draw guests in, with more than 7,000 years of ancient art on display, from the end of the Stone Age up to the fall of the Roman Empire.

The current featured exhibit is Assyria: Palace Art of Ancient Iraq, which will continue until September 5, 2022—with masterworks on special loan from the British Museum in London.

“Assyrian kings in the ninth to seventh centuries BC decorated their palaces with masterful relief sculptures that represent a high point of Mesopotamian art, both for their artistic quality and sophistication and for their vivid depictions of warfare, rituals, mythology, hunting and other aspects of Assyrian court life,” the Getty website explains.

The Getty Villa also offers workshops and plays throughout the year.

Located at 17985 Pacific Coast Highway, the Villa is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Tuesdays. Admission is free but a reservation must be made through the website: getty.edu.

Eames House

The Eames House, known as Case Study House No. 8, was built in 1949 by designers Charles and Ray Eames, a husband and wife team that lived there until their deaths in August 1978 and August 1988, respectively.

The home, located in Pacific Palisades, is a “landmark of mid-20th century modern architecture,” the Eames Foundation website reads.

“The Eameses looked at life as being an act of design,” the website continues. “The residence is filled with the ‘stuff’ of their living. The stuff that tells the story of their lives, interests and loves. Intangibles of color and form. Careful arrangements of objects and flowers, whose value is really based upon being part of the collections. And as some might feel, the stuff that transmutes a structure into a home.”

Since reservations and purchased tickets are required for all visits, it’s best to plan ahead. The house is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more comprehensive information, visit eamesfoundation.org.



The Getty Center

The Getty Center, the sister museum to The Getty Villa, is the primary museum of the J. Paul Getty Museum.

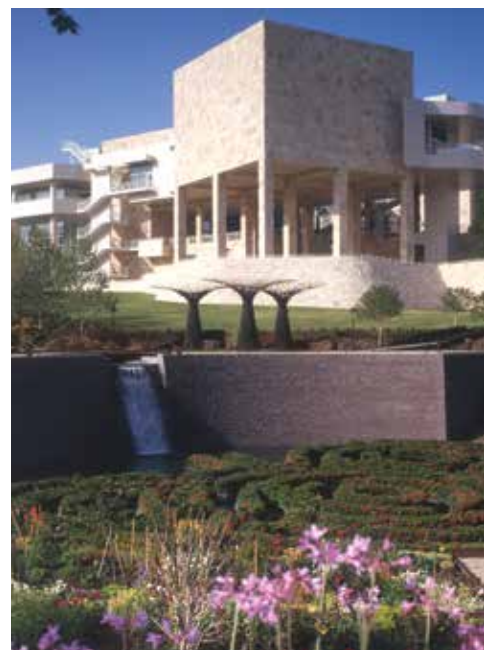
The Getty, located in Brentwood, houses primarily European paintings, drawings, sculpture, illuminated manuscripts and decorative arts, as well as photography from its beginnings to the present.

“The J. Paul Getty Museum seeks to inspire curiosity about, and enjoyment and understanding of, the visual arts by collecting, conserving, exhibiting and interpreting works of art of outstanding quality and historical importance,” the Getty’s website explains. “To fulfill this mission, the Museum continues to build its collections through purchase and gifts, and develops programs of exhibitions, publications, scholarly research, public education, and the performing arts that engage our diverse local and international audiences.”

Offerings include daily tours of the architecture, as well as the expansive garden. There is also a family room that is open daily.

The Getty Center is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive and open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is free and parking is \$15.

A list of activities and exhibits is available at getty.edu.





The Getty Center, pictured here and left
PHOTOS COURTESY OF J. PAUL GETTY TRUST

The Historic Adamson House and Malibu Lagoon Museum

Located a short drive up Pacific Coast Highway, the Adamson House and Malibu Lagoon Museum offer an intriguing view into local history.

“The enchanted site, where Malibu Creek meets the Pacific Ocean, was once home to the Chumash Indians, who thrived there until the late 18th century,” according to the Adamson House website. “Later, the Rindge family owned 17,000 acres and 20 miles of coastline. The Rindge family’s daughter, Rhoda, and her husband, Merritt Huntley Adamson, used the site to construct a beach house, now the historic Adamson House museum.”

A National Historic Site, California Historical Landmark and California State Park, the Spanish Colonial Revival-style home was built in 1929. It is situated near the Malibu Pier, between Surfrider Beach and Malibu Lagoon.

There is a docent-led walking tour at the Adamson House Garden at 10 a.m. on Fridays—with no reservation required. Tickets for the Historic Adamson House and Malibu Lagoon Museum are purchased in cash: \$7 per adult, \$2 for ages 6 to 16, and free for children 5 and under.

It is open Wednesday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with last tour at 2 p.m.

For more information, visit adamsonhouse.org.



The Historic Adamson House and Malibu Lagoon Museum

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Snippets from Palisades Past

By *Jennika Ingram*



June 12, 1975

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF POST ARCHIVES

Nestled in the hills along the Pacific Ocean, the Palisades is known, since it was founded in 1922, for its idyllic setting.

As the years pass, many things stay the same for Palisadians: a strong sense of neighborhood, lifelong friendships and a community of service. And yet, progress and development continue, businesses come and go, the population increases and fashion is ever-evolving.

A few longtime Palisadians took time to share fond memories and snippets from what life was like around town before the 1980s.

Before there was Gelson's, there was Mayfair Market, one community member recalled.

"There was an Easter egg hunt in the aisles that was really fun for kids," said Terry Loef, a longtime resident, mother of four, and grandma to three grandsons and one granddaughter.

Terry married her husband, John, in November 1955 and by December 1, had a rental apartment on Sunset Boulevard for \$75 per month.

As the family grew, they bought a home.

"I remember that our Kagawa Street house didn't have a crossing guard at the time, but we wanted our kids to go to Corpus Christi so we moved," Loef said. "We had bought a house for \$23,000 and then sold it for \$40,000—and the real estate agent told us it would never be worth a penny more. It was worth \$1.2 million last time I checked."

After selling the house, the couple bought on Ocampo Drive in 1966.

In 1971, the Sylmar earthquake rocked the Palisades. As a 10-year-old in the early '70s, Palisadian writer Scott Grusky recalled the effects of the quake.

"I remember hearing a huge noise, what sounded like a boom, and my dad came running down the hallway shouting: 'I think the water heater exploded,'" Grusky explained. "It was loud. It wasn't that normal vibration feeling. It was really scary."

The quake caused structural damage to their house on Alcima Avenue, Grusky added.

While sitting at Palisades Garden Café, a local resident shared that when she moved here in 1971, half of the elementary school her child attended was closed because of the earthquake,



June 12, 1975

so the school had to stagger the class times and the students attended only half days.

Her child went to class from 1 to 4 p.m. and then in the mornings, took kindergarten classes at The Ebsen Dance Studio nearby, run by Buddy Ebsen's sister, Vilma. Buddy was best known for his role in the television series, "The Beverly Hillbillies."

Another longtime couple, Judy and Jay Steuerwald, who have been married for 55 years, moved to the Palisades in 1973. Judy was a teacher for 36 years and spent 32 of those years teaching pre-kindergarten at St. Matthew's.

"We owned the Palisades Drug and Cafe—we were the third owners," Judy shared. "The first owners started it in 1924. We bought it in 1973. It had a full cafe and one of those old-fashioned soda fountain counters.

"It was located in the first building in the town, the Santa Monica Land and Water Company building, where the Starbucks is located now."

Judy explained that they moved

locations in 1983, when the block was retrofitted for earthquakes and the "rents skyrocketed."

As the parents of two sons, the Steuerwalds shared their thoughts on The Hot Dog Show restaurant.

"It was very popular back in those days," Judy said. "We loved The Hot Dog Show."

"The kids in the Palisades loved it because of the train that went around it," Jay added. "It was so much fun."

They also remembered their son's first job was bagging groceries during the first year Mayfair Market became Gelson's.

Palisadians recalled a few notable businesses that have come and gone: Hughes Market was the grocery store that once stood where Ralphs is today.

"It was more homey, not as corporate, and there were horses that kids could ride on," Grusky shared. "You put a quarter in, and they vibrated and rocked."

"Mort's Deli was a major hangout for people and it lasted a long time," Grusky added.

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August 22, 1974

The beloved deli on Swarthmore opened in 1974 and closed in 2007.

“Another place kids from high school would hang out was a coffee shop called Art Poole’s, located where the Mobil station is now,” Grusky said. “It was a classic ’50s-style diner. That was fun.”

The Bay Theatre, revived in 2018 in Caruso’s Palisades Village, was not where it now stands, Jay said.

“It was beside where the Pharmacia is and where the hardware store was,” he said.

For a kid living in the Palisades, those years bring back different sorts of memories.

“My biggest memory from being a kid in the Palisades was the camps,” Grusky recalled. “The Y had a camp and St. Matthew’s had a camp.”

Grusky added that he remembered going down to the beach with his friends: “That was the most incredible part of living in the Palisades. All my friends would hang out and form a cluster on the beach. There was really good surf in those days and a real reef at Surf Beach.

We would see Miki Dora, one of the greatest longboarders of all time. It was amazing to see him out there.”

Haldis Toppel, who bought a house in the Marquez Knolls in 1973, remembered the fashion of the time.

“When I first moved to the area, kids dressed conservatively and then shortly after, the kids dressed like little hippies, and then in the late 1970s, the kids dressed in bright neon,” Toppel, who has served as president of the Marquez Knolls Property Owners Association and Pacific Palisades Woman’s Club, said. “The dress of the kids really reflected the mindset of the parents. The changes happened almost every other year.”

Toppel shared that all of the kids walked to school, even as young as 6 and 7 years old.

“Sunset Boulevard was not full of traffic back in those days,” she said. “You could bike and not be in danger.”

For all of the changes, those who have stayed still love what the Palisades has to offer, the proximity to nature and the small-town feel in a cosmopolitan city.



June 12, 1975



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Community Traditions

The *Palisadian-Post* newspaper, the parent publication of *90272 Magazine*, hosts a series of events throughout the year, with some traditions dating as far back as 1954.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RICH SCHMITT



The First Baby of 2018

First Baby of the Year

Each January, the *Post* searches for the First Baby born to a Palisadian family of the new year—a tradition that was first started in 1954.

The winning family receives a prize basket with gifts from local businesses, including a handmade blanket donated by the Pacific Palisades Woman's Club annually. The family is also interviewed for a feature that runs in the paper, often offering advice to new parents.

"Get organized in advanced because you won't have time or energy after the baby is here to get your life and nursery organized," the mother of the first baby of 2019 shared.

"Enjoy the ride, enjoy the moment," the first baby of 2018's father said. "Stare at your kids for as long as you possibly can because it's a wonderful sight."

In 2016, for the first time in contest history, there was not just one winner, but two: twins Benjamin James Nakamura and Lucas Alexander Nakamura arrived on January 9.

Pali Bee: Pacific Palisades Spelling Bee

The buzz about town each February is for the Pali Bee: A community-wide spelling bee for students who live or go to school in the Palisades in first through fifth grade that will celebrate its 10th year in 2021.

A colony of frenzied spellers tackle some un-bee-lievably tough words, like "xylem," "esophagus" and "hippopotamus."

Pali Bee day, which usually falls on a Sunday, is divided up into two time slots. At 10 a.m., students in first and second grade gather for a scored written test, followed by an oral exam for the top scorers in each grade. At 1 p.m., the fun starts again, with testing for third-through fifth-graders kicking off.

Trophies are awarded to the top three spellers in each grade, based on best overall score, which, in 2019, were handed out during the afternoon session by Honorary Co-Mayors of the Palisades Janice and Billy Crystal.

Pacific Palisades Teen Talent Contest

Celebrating more than 60 years, the Pacific Palisades Teen Talent Contest draws in a standing-room-only crowd each spring.

In previous years, the winners were referred to as Mr. and Miss. Palisades, but in 2018, the name was updated to promote inclusivity. The contest also debuted a new image, as the winners can be of any gender.

In 2019, 14 contestants participated, giving it their all to earn the top two places, showing off talents that ranged from singing to filmmaking and dance. The show was hosted by 2018 winner Valentina Silardi and Palisades Charter High School senior Cole Suárez, with pre-show and halftime performances by Fancy Feet Dance Studio.

Past judges include Ted McGinley, Cindy Simon, Andi Wagner and Marissa Hermer.

Last year, Hunter Barnett and Juliet Burks, both singers and Pali High stu-



2019 winners of the Pacific Palisades Teen Talent Contest



Palisades Annual SPELLING BEE



Winning spellers of the 2019 Pali Bee



Father Gregory Boyle in 2018

dents, were crowned the winners, each taking home a \$1,000 cash scholarship, tickets to the Renaissance Faire and free food at Palisades Garden Café for one year.

The contest is sponsored each year by local businesses and organizations, including the Cathie Wishnick Scholarship Foundation.

Speaker Series

At a recent edition of the *Palisadian-Post's* Speaker Series, a crowd of more than 300 people gathered at Corpus Christi to hear a talk by Father Gregory Boyle of Homeboy Industries, an organization that provides job training and essential services—such as tattoo removal, legal advice and educational classes—to gang members in the Los Angeles area.

“We are healing centered,” said Boyle, because “a healed gang member will never go back to prison.” Homeboy offers an 18-month training program and receives 15,000 members a year—men

and women who choose to walk in themselves.

During his keynote address, Boyle described several of the participants, referring to them as “Homies,” and offered a glimpse into how their tragic childhoods led them on a path toward gang activity.

Creep Your Crypt

When Halloween draws near, out come the ghouls, goblins, spiders and all things spooky—just in time for the *Palisadian-Post's* annual Creep Your Crypt home-decorating contest.

Throughout the month of October, homes throughout all neighborhoods of the Palisades are invited to throw their hat in the ring to take home a trophy, as picked by members of the community, who vote via online or printed ballots.

Hundreds of dollars worth of prizes from local restaurants and businesses are awarded in three categories: Creepiest Crypt, Best Theme and DIY-Originality. “What we really enjoy is the daily



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Deck Your Halls 2019 winner

family activity and the joy it brings to so many,” one of the winning members of the Creepiest Crypt of 2019 home shared. “Every day leading up to Halloween we have children and parents exploring the yard and asking questions, sparking creativity as they create their own wonderful Halloween stories, ideas and memories.”

The Creep Your Crypt contest returns this fall for its seventh year in a row.

Deck Your Halls

If spooky season is not your thing, home decorators have a second chance to win hundreds of dollars worth of prizes during the *Palisadian-Post's* annual Deck Your Halls contest.

In December, homes across the Palisades that are decorated for all things merry and bright vie for the two top prizes: Best Decked Out Hall and DIY-Originality.

Also celebrating seven years in the community, the Deck Your Halls contest winners are selected by a vote.

“We’ve entered like five times,” the 2019 DIY-Originality winner said of her first-time prize, with last year’s decor featuring a zebra, giraffe and an owl on the roof.



The 2019 Pacific Palisades Teen Talent Contest



A Creep Your Crypt contestant

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Hit the Trail

We're lucky in Pacific Palisades because, apart from a handful of days, the weather stays perfect for hiking year-round.

By Sarah Shmerling



Temescal Canyon

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALL TRAILS



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Los Liones Trail

The Los Liones Trail weaves up the canyon at the south end of Topanga State Park, one mile from the Pacific Ocean. The 2.6-mile trail—out and back—takes approximately 1.5 hours and has an elevation change of 550 feet.

After 1.3 miles of hiking, the trail arrives at a clearing that offers sweeping views of Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica and the Pacific Ocean. Along the hike, there are ample views of the Santa Monica Bay.

At the top of the trail, hikers who want to extend their trip can take East Topanga Fire Road, which continues to the Parker Mesa Overlook.

The entrance to Los Liones Trail is located on the right side of the cul-de-sac at approximately 580 Los Liones Drive.

Paseo Miramar Trail

Paseo Miramar is a 4.9-mile moderately trafficked, out-and-back trail, which takes anywhere from one to three hours to complete.

The trail, which follows Los Liones Trail for the first .9 miles, has been described as one of the “most iconic California” trails, with many options to extend the trek for those who are interested.

It is recommended to tackle this trail early in the morning, when not only temperatures are lower, but finding parking nearby is easier.



Paseo Miramar

PHOTO COURTESY OF YELP



Views from Los Liones Trail

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Temescal Canyon Trail

Temescal Canyon Trail is a 2.9-mile loop that has been described as “moderate.” The trail, which is primarily used for hiking, walking, trail running and bird watching, is accessible year-round and features a waterfall. The trail includes an elevation gain of 875 feet.

Some trail reviewers recommend taking the loop counterclockwise to be out in the open while it is cooler and shaded on the way down.

Temescal Canyon Trail offers views of the Santa Monica Mountains, Pacific Ocean and Pacific Palisades throughout the trek.

The entrance to Temescal Gateway Park is located at Temescal Canyon Road and Sunset Boulevard.

Trailer Canyon Trailhead

Described as a lightly trafficked, out-and-back trail, Trailer Canyon Trailhead features ample wild flowers and boasts a moderate rating.

The 4.3-mile trail, which weaves along a fire road, includes an elevation gain of 925 feet and features “great views” of the Santa Monica Mountains and surrounding canyons. The wide road provides easy travel, with an option to extend the hike to Temescal Peak.

Though dogs are not welcome, horses and mountain bikers are able to use the trail.



Los Lions

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Trailer Canyon

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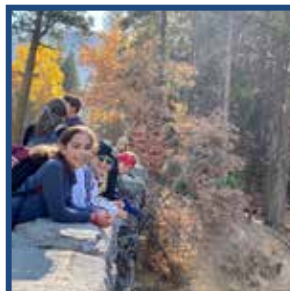
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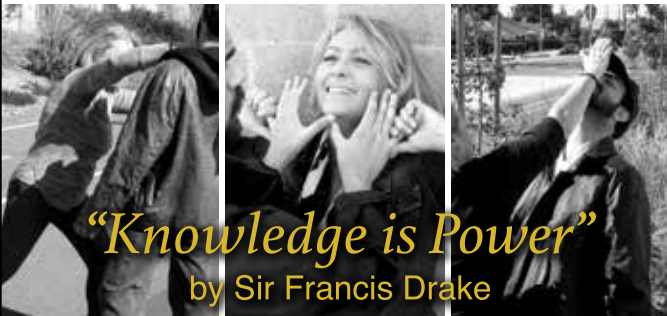
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Picture-Perfect Palisades

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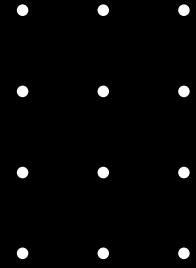
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◀ Audrey Yael Smith

I live two blocks from Palisades Village and I love walking around there. I could spend hours browsing books at the Amazon bookstore (I'm definitely a bookworm). I also enjoy doing my friends' makeup at Sephora. I have found so many cute trinkets at Bonjour Fête. On Sundays, I take a fun family yoga class with Jessica at the Alo studio.

My favorite restaurant at Palisades Village is Blue Ribbon Sushi and my favorite sweet treats there are the açai sorbet at SunLife Organics, the mint chip ice cream at McConnell's, the chocolate caramel cake at Sweet Laurel and the cinnamon sticky buns at Erewhon. I also like the hot chocolate at Alfred's and piña colada smoothies at Erewhon.

Finally, I appreciate being able to walk to the movies. I saw "Little Women" recently at the Bay Theatre and found it interesting to compare the movie to the book. Pacific Palisades is an idyllic town and I feel fortunate to live here.

Best Day Ever

Two of our Junior Reporters shared their favorite things to do in the Palisades.

Uma Ramaswami ▶

My all-time favorite thing to do in the Palisades is go to the Palisades Village. Going to hang out there with my friends is always something fun to do. I go to the grassy field outside of McConnell's after school with my best friends and do homework. Then we decorate our faces with excessive amounts of sparkly gold eyeshadow, peachy pink cheeks and red lips at Sephora. Looking like superstars, we walk into PaliSkates, one of my favorite shops next to the Caruso Village, and look through all the new sweatshirts. We walk a block down to Palisades Garden Café and get fries and milkshakes to share. When not a crumb is left, we stroll home.

The Village isn't just a place that I visit with my friends. When I eat out with my family, we eat somewhere around the Village too. Blue Ribbon Sushi is a great sushi place and Porta Via is my absolute favorite Italian place. We might catch a movie at the Bay Theatre just after dinner. We can't go to the village without going to McConnell's and getting a creamy scoop of ice cream. After we scarf down our ice cream, we walk a few blocks to get home and still see the lights of the village through our windows.



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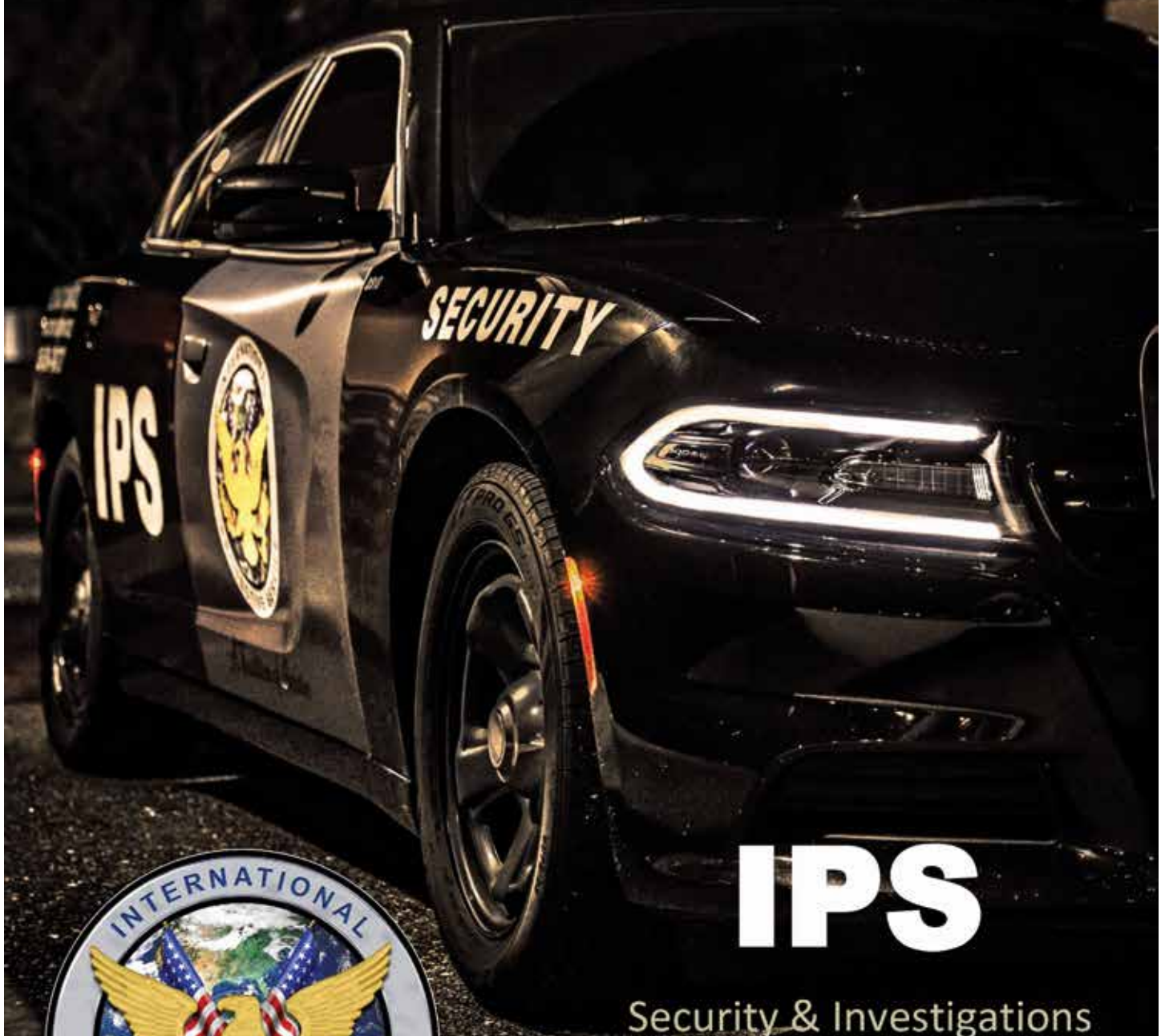
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