



February 2017

Newsletter

Fecund facundity from the fertile foothills

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Treasurer – Johnie Driver
Orientation – Mary McGilvray
Website – René Amy
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Maintenance Coordinator Leo Stallworth
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Nominating – Marie Yeseta
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Read this issue online:

<http://www.altadenacommunitygarden.com/newsletter.html>



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Upcoming Events

- Saturday February 25, 10 -11:30 AM General Membership Meeting Loma Alta Park Gym 3330 N. Lincoln Ave. Altadena, CA. 91001
- March 25, April 1, 8, 15, & 22 9:30 AM-12:30 PM Spring Victory Garden Classes
- Saturday April 22, Earth Day
- Saturday April 29, 10 -11:30 AM General Membership Meeting Loma Alta Park Gym
- Saturday 6/24, 10 -11:30 AM General Membership Meeting Loma Alta Park Gym
- Altadena Community Garden Annual Picnic. Saturday, July 29th from 12 to 4 pm.

From the President



The President would like to thank everyone for their cooperation during the filming Thursday February 2nd and to announce that revenue from the film shoot was divided equally with the Loma Alta Park Children Programs. Plants were also donated to the Garden and some were planted in plots that were in the shoot.

The Executive Board would like to thank the Grape Vine Committee members: January Norman - Chairperson, John Lynch, Michiko Lynch, Mary Gothard and Marie Yeseta for the excellent Grape Vine Pruning workshop which was held Saturday February, 4th to prune the grape vine on the Garden fence facing Palm Street. Under the leadership of John Lynch with assistance from garden members Denis Titchenell, Kelly Fernandez, Jared Burton, friends, family members, coworkers and neighbors the workshop was a tremendous success. The Executive Board appreciates your commitment and hard work to address the issues related to the grape vine on the fence. The positive results are plain for everyone in the Garden and the community to see.

Welcome to our new local government officials



Kathryn Barger

We offer a very special welcome to Kathryn Barger, the newly elected Supervisor for the 5th district and Mercy Santero, new Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation.



Mercy Santero



Deck Reconstruction

The garden decking foundation is apparently beyond repair and must be replaced. Weather permitting, the Department of Parks & Recreation will be doing major construction work on the deck to replace the rotten foundation timbers, create seating around the edges and address ADA access issues.

Removal of the plants around the deck has begun in preparation for construction commencement this month. The plants will reside in pots until they can be replanted after the project. Please do not remove/take these plants from any location in the Garden.



Deck Deterioration



Irish Dancing

The deck/picnic area will not be available for any activities until the project concludes in April.

Please present any ideas you may have about replanting the plants around the deck once the construction is completed. The resultant improvements will no doubt yield something to look forward to. Please

share thoughts for use of the deck which will now have the requisite under-girding for any manner of percussive and terpsichorean activities. Just think of the possibilities—even acrobats, elephant rides and Irish dancing may be staged there with little fear of its collapsing.



Grapevine Workshop

On Saturday February 4, arborist John Lynch led a pruning onslaught on the grape vines along the south fence of the garden. The vines, which had never previously been pruned, had spread along the fence producing an unbroken and densely intertwined conflation of vine and chainlink from which vine removal required tedious and persistent pulling and snipping from both sides. The enterprise was entirely successful however and only expertly selected main stems and branches remain, from which new growth will no doubt rapidly emerge.



John Lynch

Tools, water and snacks were provided and the atmosphere was most collegial and convivial as the vines were removed, cut up into small pieces, wheelbarrowed to the dumpster and stomped down. It was a very rewarding, if somewhat tiring, experience.



Cutting up the vines

The grape vines, originally chosen for their dazzling autumnal foliage, benefit to local wildlife and grape crop yield, had obscured the view of the gardens from the street and, in response to a request from the Sheriff Station, this was cited as grounds for their removal. A grapevine committee was formed



Tamping them down

however, chaired by January Norman, which recommended that the vines be retained, contending that they were a valuable asset and that periodic maintenance would solve the problem. This indeed seems to have been demonstrated to be a workable solution.

The garden is again clearly visible from the street and we should now no longer be plagued by incursions from furtive miscreants and scoundrels seeking to secrete themselves behind that viticultural facade of foliage—taggers lurking behind the toolshed, pushers skulking in the pumpkins, embezzlers stalking the eggplants, not to mention all those pesky whistleblowers among the wheelbarrows and wayward and beleaguered climatologists amid the kale and kohlrabi.



Motions from the January 28 Executive Board Meeting

Moved, Seconded, Passed: Approval of the Executive Board Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2016.

MSP: Approval of Eva Story for the position of Garden Inspector.

MSP: Approval of Denis Titchenell for the position of Bulletin Chair Person.

MSP: Approval of Johnie Driver for the position of Treasurer.

MSP: Approval of the Annual Budget

MSP: Approval of Amendment P. (see below)

MSP: [Creation of] A Water fountain in the rose area of the garden and maintained by the gardeners. Fountain approved. To added to the Agenda for the next Board Meeting.



Article P

Amendment to bylaws to be voted upon in the February members meeting.

P. Except as specifically listed below, removal of anything from the garden's property, including its public spaces or tool sheds, or from another gardener's plot without their permission, is strictly prohibited. Doing so will result in immediate termination from the garden.

i. Common area fruit trees (except Avocado): Fruits of these trees are available on a first come, first taken basis. The Garden requests that members exercise restraint and remember to give everyone a chance to enjoy a share.

ii. Common area flowers around the deck, cactus gardens, herb garden and rose gardens:

(a) Cutting or removing flowers from around the deck or cactus/succulent from the cactus/succulent gardens is strictly prohibited.

(b). Cutting herbs from the herb garden and/or roses from the rose gardens is allowed. The Garden requests that members exercise restraint and remember to give everyone a chance to enjoy a share.

iii. Avocado tree: Fruits from the avocado tree shall exclusively be picked and distributed under the direction of the Garden President and/or Vice President. It is strictly prohibited for members to pick avocados themselves.

iv. Plants outside the Garden fence: Fruits and flowers are available to all, as part of the Garden's Corner Beautification Project.

v. Items at/on covered picnic table adjacent to concrete-block shed: Items left in this area are free for the taking, and again, the Garden requests that members exercise restraint and remember to give everyone a chance to enjoy a share.



2017 Maintenance, Repair and Upgrade Projects

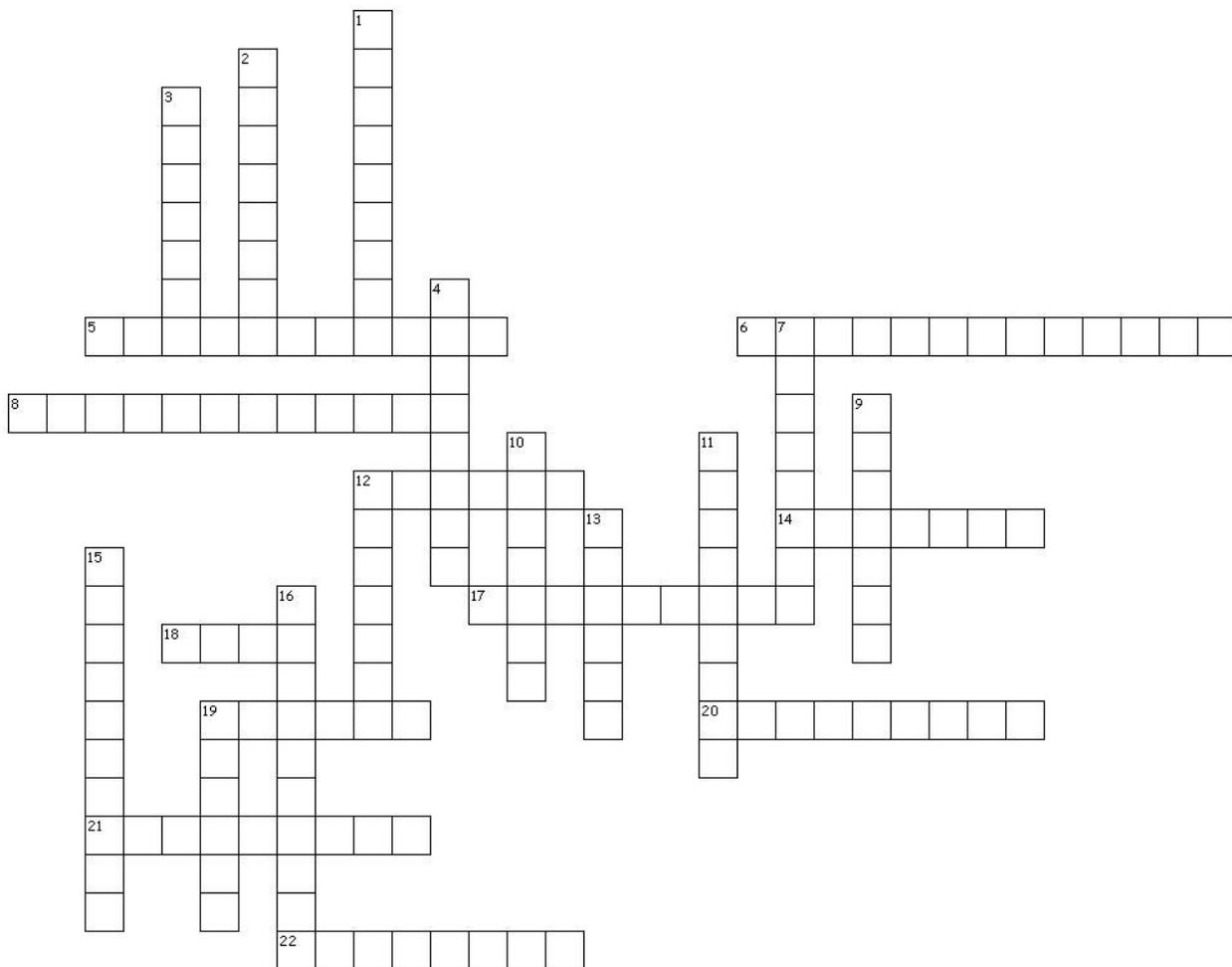
By Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation

1. Continue to provide the maintenance for the Garden Corner Beautification project...ongoing. Coordinate with the Farmers' Market to replace the rotten trees that were removed last year from the Lower Park. Remove the palm tree in the Garden. Complete by April.
2. As agreed, provide and install safety "SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING" signage in the Garden by March. Refer to the attached email for specifications.
3. Begin construction on the deck to replace rotten foundation boards, address any related ADA issues, and add seating 18" to 20" in width to the inner east and south sides of the deck. Provide 2 picnic tables to accommodate someone in a wheelchair. Complete construction by April.
4. Refurbish the back of bulletin board, display showcases and replace the one termite infested wooden display showcase. Upgrade cases for Garden newsletters and applications. Complete by April.
5. Continue to replace rotten perimeter plot boards as identified. Complete by March.
6. Remove Victory Garden Class sign to Handicapped plot-4. Replace outside light bulb over large shed door. Install replacement light pole in Lower Park next to Garden outside eastern fence between the main and middle entrance gates to the Garden. This rotten light pole was removed last year. It provided light to eastern section of the Garden and Lower Park. This is a safety issue. Complete by February.
7. Continue to provide logistical support to ensure another successful Community Garden Annual Picnic on **July 29th**.

8. Construct a 6 foot border from the Eastern Garden fence in the Lower Park and add mulch to the area. The Garden will plant California native plants and additional fruit trees. The Garden will also provide the ongoing maintenance for this area. This request has been made for the past two years, with no action by your Department's managers. This project is necessary to enhance the appearance of the eastern side of the Garden facing the Lower Park. Complete by April.



Garden Crossword



Across

- 5. A one- or two-wheeled vehicle with handles at the rear, used to convey small loads.
- 6. Of or relating to dancing.
- 8. The cultivation of grapes

12. To be a widespread or continuous problem or defect
14. A tropical American tree having oval or pear-shaped fruit with leathery skin
17. One who behaves badly, often by breaking rules of conduct or the law
18. A plant in the mustard family, having dark green, spreading, usually crinkled leaves that are eaten as a vegetable
19. Capable of producing offspring or vegetation; fruitful:
20. A violent attack
21. An aggressive entrance into foreign territory; a raid or invasion
22. A plant native to India, cultivated for its edible, glossy, usually ovoid fruits that are chiefly purple but can be white, yellow, or green

Down

1. To harass; beset
2. Relating to or occurring in autumn
3. To conceal in a hiding place
4. A plant in the mustard family, having a thick basal part of the stem that is eaten as a vegetable
7. pachyderm
9. One who is skilled in feats of balance and agility in gymnastics
10. surreptitious
11. any decoration with foliage
12. A round, often large squash with coarse, strongly flavored yellow to orange flesh, numerous seeds, and a moderately hard, usually orange rind.
13. a front or outer appearance
15. the process or result of fusing items into one entity
16. relating to, or characterized by percussion
19. articulate, eloquent

Cheater's wordlist:

percussive	facade
terpsichorean	foliation
acrobats	beleaguer
onslaught	avocado
conflation	kohlrabi
wheelbarrow	elephant
autumnal	eggplant
plague	pumpkin
incursion	kale
furtive	facund
miscreant	fecund
secrete	
viticultural	