



Town Hall wrap-up: Echo Park is for (animal) lovers

by Kelly Erickson

Thank you everyone for coming out to our first meeting of 2014! We are excited for a new year of grassroots organization and activism in Echo Park. Last night's meeting was a great way to start things off – we brought together local organizations, volunteers and residents who work in pet services around the community. We learned a lot about adoption, intervention, volunteer and donation opportunities, and



levels, including:

more!

As a followup to the meeting, here is a digest of what we learned:

BLUECOLLAR WORKING DOG

Michelle from Bluecollar Working Dog on Echo Park Avenue in Echo Park introduced not only the retail products they offer, but also the amazing pet services on a variety of

(Continued on page 2)

Updates from your Council District representatives

Mitch O'Farrell / CD13

Submitted by Mitch O'Farrell

I'm excited to bring you the first of many updates here on the EPIAn Way as your Councilmember of the 13th District. I'm looking forward to working with you and making great things happen in Echo Park.

My staff and I have been hard at work since I took office last summer. In a few weeks, we'll break ground on a major streetscape improvement on Sunset Boulevard, from Rosemont to Everett Street. The project will repair sidewalks, increase ADA accessibility, plant dozens of new trees, add benches and other street furniture, and generally improve the look and overall walkability of Echo Park.

(Continued on page 2)

Gil Cedillo / CD1

Submitted by Field Deputy Melinda Ramos-Alatorre

The First District is looking forward to what lies ahead in 2014. We are prioritizing our goals under our P.E.A.C.E. Program. "PEACE" is our acronym for Public Safety, Economic Development, Arts & Culture, Clean Communities, and the Environment. This will serve as the framework for our goals in 2014.

We have already kicked off our "clean communities" portion through the "Keep it Clean" campaign. CD1 has a dedicated team from the Bureau of Sanitation for our neighborhoods. They are focused around bulky item and trash pick up. With our team, we have already cleaned up over 200 alleys and over 500 tons of trash throughout CD1. Banners with the phone number to call for bulky

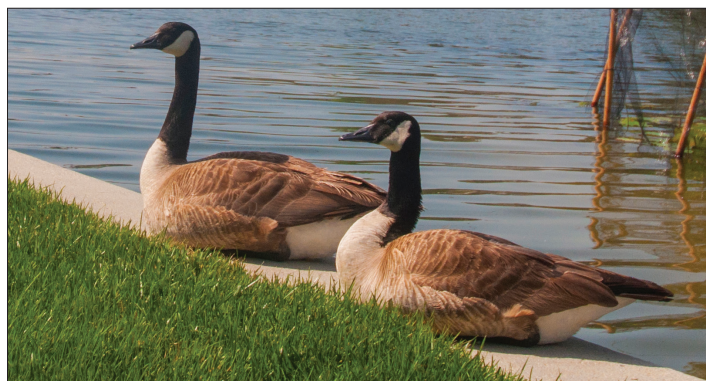
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Results of December Bird Count at Echo Park Lake

On Sunday, December 29, 2013, bird lovers met up at newly renovated Echo Park Lake for the Annual Christmas Bird Count. Judith Raskin led the small group, and with binoculars in hand they recorded a total of 28 species and 735 individuals.

Here are the results of the Echo Park Lake bird count:

4 American wigeon	5 Snowy egret
22 Mallard	5 Green heron
27 Ring-necked duck	268 American coot
1 Lesser scaup	166 Rock pigeon
3 Bufflehead	2 Mourning dove
43 Ruddy Duck	10 Yellow-chevroned parakeet
20 Pied-billed grebe	
2 Great blue heron	2 Anna's hummingbird
4 Great egret	2 Allen's hummingbird



2 Acorn woodpecker	37 European starling
8 Black phoebe	6 Yellow-rumped warbler
1 Western scrub-jay	
17 American crow	35 Brewer's blackbird
30 Bushtit	2 Great-tailed grackle
2 Northern mockingbird	9 House sparrow

Echo Park Community Parade 2013



Thank you to the volunteers of the Echo Park Community Parade for making the 2013 event a wonderful success! The EPIA was happy to participate in the organization of this year's VIP reception at Allumette.

The Parade Grand Marshal, Isa Meksin, was unable to attend the parade due to illness. We wish you a continued recovery, Isa!

Cont.: CD13 report

(Continued from page 1)

Over on Logan Street, many of you have probably visited our amazing Echo Park Farmers' Market. I'm excited to announce that on April 4th, the market will be expanding and we'll be closing half of a block of Logan Street to accommodate the expansion. This will open the market up to Sunset Boulevard and bring a new vibrancy to the heart of the community.

In between my regular updates here, please visit my home on the web at <http://cd13.com> where you will find news and information about the great 13th District.

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Improvement Association

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www.epia-echopark.org

Echo Park Animal Alliance pet spotlight

Banjo is the complete package! He's a nine-month-old "teenage" kitten, and enjoys the company of children, dogs, and other cats. Banjo's ideal home would have lots of toys, lots of love and someone to play with. He'd also like bed privileges and if possible, a window to look out of.

This little guy is neutered, vaccinated, FIV-FelV tested, micro-chipped, dewormed and has had flea meds applied.

Please send an email to nest7c@yahoo.com if you're interested in Banjo.



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Echo Park Community Calendar

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION	NOTES
EPIA Meetings	Every 1st Thursday 7:00 pm	Williams Hall at Barlow Hospital, 2000 Stadium Way	Email EPIA to get monthly reminders of meetings and to be on email list.
EPIA Steering Committee	Every 2nd Monday 7:15 pm	Email EPIAmail@yahoo.com for location	Take an active part in EPIA. Join the Steering Committee.
EPIA Neighborhood Issues Committee	Every 3rd Wednesday 7:00 pm	Williams Hall at Barlow Hospital, 2000 Stadium Way	
Community Safety Meeting (EPSA)	Every 3rd Wednesday 2:00 pm	Hosted by EPSA. Call (323) 860-9914 for meeting location.	
Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park	Every 1st Wednesday 7:00 pm	Williams Hall at Barlow Hospital, 2000 Stadium Way	Call (213) 666-9651 for meeting location
Echo Park Chamber of Commerce	Every 3rd Thursday 7:00 pm	Taix Restaurant	Call (213) 630-3032 for further information.
Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council Board of Governors	Every 4th Tuesday 7:00 pm	Visit www.GEPENC.org for location information and other committee meetings	
Edendale Library Friends Society (ELFS)	Every 2nd Wednesday 7:00 pm	Edendale Library Community room 2011 W. Sunset Blvd.	Find out how you can help your neighborhood's branch.
Positive Energy Group of Echo Park and Silver Lake Area	4th Wednesday 6:00 - 7:00 pm	Edendale Library Community room 2011 W. Sunset Blvd.	For info: www.positiveenergygroup.blogspot.com
EP Farmers' Market	Every Friday 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Parking lot #663 -- half a block south of Sunset Boulevard (323) 463-3171 x13	
Edendale Book Club	Every 3rd Monday 6:30 pm	Edendale Library Community room 2011 W. Sunset Blvd.	

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Community Resources

POLICE

Emergency	911
Spanish Line.....	213-928-8222
Narcotic Hotline	1-800-662-2878
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-540-4000
Police Non-Emergency	1-877-275-5273
LAPD Air Support Division.....	213-485-2600

RAMPART DIVISION

Division Desk.....	213-484-3400 ext 1
Vice Unit.....	213-485-4080
Division Watch Commander	213-485-4062
Senior Lead Officer Ford.....	213-793-0775
Community Relations	213-484-3400 ext 2
China Town Sub-Station	213-621-2344

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Division Desk.....	323-344-5701
Northeast Report Unit.....	323-344-5701
Senior Lead Officer Gina Chovan	213-793-0760
Senior Lead Officer Al Polehonki	213-793-0763
Detectives	323-344-5731
Community Relations	323-344-5712
Gang Detail.....	323-344-5754

CLEAN-UP

Abandoned Vehicles	311
Cars Parked in Yards	1-888-524-2845
Hazardous Waste Disposal Info	1-800-988-6942
Storm Drains	213-485-5391
Trash & Bulky Item Pick Up.....	1-800-773-2489
LAFD Brush Clearance	818-374-1111

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

Department Building & Safety	1-888-524-2845
Department of Health	1-800-427-8700
Department of Transportation.....	213-580-1177
Department of Water & Power.....	1-800-342-5397
Parking Enforcement.....	311
Loose/Stray Animals/Barking Dogs.....	888-452-7381
Legal Aid Client Referral	1-800-399-4529
Operation Bright Lights.....	311
Film LA.....	213-977-8600

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Report Graffiti/Free Paint	311
Copies of Crime & Traffic Reports.....	213-485-4193
Dodger's Neighborhood Focus	323-224-2636
Dodger's Community Affairs.....	323-224-1435
North Central Animal Shelter.....	213-847-1416
Elysian Park Ranger	323-913-4688
Health Information.....	211
Los Angeles City Information.....	311
Neighborhood Prosecutor Program.....	213-847-8045

POLITICAL

1st District Gil Cedillo	213-473-7001
13th District Mitch O'Farrell.....	323-957-4500
28th Congressional District Adam Schiff	213-483-1425
3th Congressional District Xavier Becerra	213-481-1425
22nd State Senator Kevin de León	213-483-9300
51st State Assemblyperson Jimmy Gomez	213-483-5151
LA County Supervisor Gloria Molina.....	213-974-4111
Mayor's Office	213-978-0600

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Cont.: Town Hall wrap-up on animal services

(Continued from page 1)

- Free 2-week supplies of dog food for those in need from their Food Bank. This is a no questions asked program. Those who want to donate to the Food Bank can purchase and donate dog food for the program.
- They have an in-store chip reader, and will call the owner registered to the pet.
- Once a month, they bring in a group that provides chipping, low-cost health exams, blood work, nail clippings, vaccines, and more.

For more information about all of these programs, check their website at bluecollarworkingdog.com - and we recommend joining their email list from the home page of their website.

NORTH CENTRAL ANIMAL SHELTER

The North Central Animal Shelter Intervention Program is relatively new - a volunteer-run organization that started last November, volunteers set up a table in front of the North Central Animal Shelter offering any aid to help owners keep their pets before giving them up to the shelter. Most people who end up surrendering their pets do so because of financial reasons - affording vaccines, pet deposits in their home or apartment, medical issues, and more.

The Intervention Program can help connect people with free or low-cost spay/neuter resources, provide pet supplies like food, collars, leashes and beds, and even help pay to redeem dogs for some. They work with a network of rescues and fosters, and using social media to spread the word they help place an animal before they go into the shelter system. "It's a nice way to not stress the city shelter system," said Kerry Armstrong of the Program. "The more we can keep out and find a rescue for or keep with the families, the fewer animals the city shelter will have."

Donations are tax deductible. Most cases can cost up to \$300, but typically it costs much less to help animals find a home or stay with their family. The program is modeled after the South Los Angeles Intervention

Program, which kept over 1700 animals from the shelter just from April to October of 2013.

Contact info: facebook.com/northcentralintervention, ncintervention@gmail.com

MUDDY PAW COFFEE

Darren Labori recently opened Muddy Paw Coffee at 2230 Sunset Boulevard in Silver Lake. The cafe not only serves coffee, it donates a portion of daily revenue to local animal rescues while encouraging people to micro-chip and spay/neuter their pets.

LA FEEDERS

LA Feeders is a volunteer-run organization that feeds neighborhood/stray cats in Southern California. They also collect food donations and provide food to local organizations like shelters and other animal service organizations. They are currently holding a raffle on their website for a 6 foot cat condo tree - tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10. www.lafeeders.org | Local contact: Adela Montalvo, adela@lafeeders.org

OTHER GREAT RESOURCES

During the meeting there were other local services used by residents in the area, here are those resources:

Luxe Paws: Volunteer-run organization facilitating adoption, spay & neuter for homeless animals in the Los Angeles neighborhoods of Silver Lake, Los Feliz & Echo Park. Contact info: info@luxepaws.org, facebook.com/LuxePaws

Mohawk Alley Animal Hospital: Newly opened on Sunset Boulevard in Echo Park. Contact info: (213) 201-7900, mohawkalleyanimalhospital.com

Warren Animal Hospital: Located on Riverside Drive, full and emergency services. Contact info: (323) 664-2188, warrenanimalhospitallosangeles.com

Want to share your resources? Comment on our website at epia-echopark.org

Cont.: Updates from CD1

(Continued from page 1)

item pick up are popping all over the district, as well as “Big Belly” trash bins, which actually send a signal to Sanitation when they are ready to be picked up. This program, however, cannot be successful without a full community. Let all of your neighbors know to call in and schedule their pick up before leaving their sofas on the street. You can call 1 (800) 773-2489 for bulky item pick up.

The First District is also one of three Council Districts to allow murals in single-family residences. Lifting the ban on murals is a huge victory for the arts community. The new ordinance allows for murals on commercial properties and multi-unit apartments. If you are interested in starting a mural project in your neighborhood, do not hesitate to contact Melinda Ramos-Alatorre, Field Deputy for Angelino Heights and Elysian Park, at (323) 550-1538.

Early elections for Echo Park Neighborhood Council

Candidate filing is officially open for the Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council (GEPENC). All board seats are open for candidates, including all district representatives (Echo Park has five districts total).

Election day takes place on Saturday, April 12 from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Edendale Branch Library in Echo Park.

Deadline for candidate filing is February, 26, 2014. For more information on the elections, how to file, and candidate qualifications visit gepenc.org

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www.echoparknow.com

LA Host Lions Club Hosts Councilman Mitch O'Farrell

Submitted by Carol Mares, President LA Host Lions Club

On Thursday evening, January 23, 2014 at Taix, Restaurant, the Los Angeles Host Lions Club hosted Councilman Mitch O'Farrell representing the 13th District of the LA City Council. More than 30 Lions and guests attended this unique dinner meeting which also was the kickoff for the evening meetings for the club. Councilman Mitch was very optimistic of the future of Los Angeles.

He stated that several things were underway, among them a \$1 billion revitalization plan for the LA River, secured funding for business improvements, and master plans to help make the streets safer and more inviting.

He talked about his desire to create more affordable housing for veterans, senior citizens and professionals too. He feels the real need to work for the long term to help the quickly declining middle class. He wants to bring back jobs in the entertainment field especially production jobs. He dreams of the day he will see a trolley car in Hollywood going down Sunset Blvd. to Union Station. Lastly, he wants, "LA to be the envy of the world and a great place to live and work."

He filled the room with energy, vision and optimism. Everyone left impressed, energized and ready to see how the LA Host Lions Club can make a big DIFFERENCE as WE SERVE Echo Park and the greater Los Angeles area.



Councilman Mitch O'Farrell joined the Los Angeles Host Lions Club during their January 2014 meeting. For more info on the Lions Club and to become a member, visit la-lion.tripod.com

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