

June 14, 2022



**CARING FOR OUR
NEIGHBORHOOD.**



Happy Birthday to Us!

Silver Lake Together (SLT) is celebrating our third anniversary as champions for this wonderful community! Together, we've worked to share information and advocate for a myriad of issues that impact Silver Lake, ranging from the future of the Silver Lake Reservoirs to SLT's popular No Leaf Blowers and Slow Down Silver Lake campaigns to working with community members to establish a Tom LaBonge memorial to partnering

with LAPD to prevent the theft of catalytic converters. Since our first newsletter in June 2019, we've proudly published hundreds of unique articles, hosted scores of community meetings, and advocated for the people who call Silver Lake home. Thank you for your continued support — we look forward to many years working to together!

[Click here](#) for a snapshot of how Silver Lake Together has advocated for the residents of Silver Lake on issues that impact us all.



Photo: Silver Lake Conservancy

The Meadows: Peaceful Retreat or Free-for-All?

The Meadows, nestled within the Silver Lake Reservoirs Complex, was developed after years of negotiations between city agencies and Silver Lake residents, as a passive-activity-only, dog-free park. Organized sports, fee-based classes, dogs on or off leash, or amplified sound are prohibited within the area. The park is intended to be a safe and quiet outdoor space, inviting those who want to fly a kite, relax, practice yoga/meditation, or simply enjoy observing the wildlife with whom we share the space. Unfortunately too many, on a regular basis, refuse to respect the space and instead violate its bucolic setting by bringing in their dogs, noise, and worse. Last Sunday night, after the Meadows “closed,” a well-organized underground concert was held, featuring three bands playing amplified music. The sounds of the music and cheering crowd could be heard blocks away. The event ended after 10:00 p.m. and many calls were made to the LAPD’s non-emergency number. Silver Lake Together estimates there were at least 100 concertgoers.

For the past three years, SLT has seen an uptick in complaints regarding activity at The Meadows. Including multiple dog bites. The Silver Lake Advocacy Team will meet with representatives from CD 13, LAPD, Recreation and Parks, Silver Lake Rec Center, and LADWP to discuss how the city can better regulate park activity, and to ensure all city

codes are respected. The Meadows is for the passive enjoyment for Angelenos, visitors, and for the survival of the wildlife who call it home.

Club Cupcake— The Sassiest Boy Bar in L.A.



Did you know that before the Gauntlet II became the LA Eagle it briefly had another name? Called Club Cupcake, it was the “sassiest boy bar in L.A.” and drenched in pink. Hear the wonderful story behind that name as well as the history of one of the most iconic gay leather bars in Los Angeles. The Silver Lake History Collective interviewed Charlie Matula and Hunter Fox and got the lowdown on the Eagle’s history and how it survived the pandemic to come back better than ever. You don’t want to miss this fascinating glimpse into the history of gay L.A.

[WATCH THE INTERVIEW WITH CHARLIE MATULA AND HUNTER FOX](#)

Sunset Corridor Crime Uptick

LAPD Northeast Division Senior Lead Officer Jose Ramirez



Silver Lake's Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Jose Ramirez reports that his primary focus is the Sunset Corridor. Businesses are struggling with homeless issues and disturbances, as some people are entering businesses and stealing employee tips. There will be an increase in patrols over the weeks to come.

SLO Ramirez also invited local merchants who are experiencing thefts to a Loss Prevention Conference on June 29, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The meeting will take place in Deaton Hall, 100 West First Street, Los Angeles. For more information email SLO Ramirez at 39570@lapd.online

Here are local crime stats from May 15 to June 11, 2022:

Homicide - 0

Rape - 0

Robbery - 2

Aggravated Assault - 3

Gang Related- 1

Shots fired - 1

Victims Shot - 1

Burglary - 12

Theft - 13

GTA - 7

Burglary From Motor Vehicle - 26

Recovered Vehicle- 5

Violent crime- 1

Property Crimes - 15

Gas Cooking Going Away? Not so Fast!



Is the City of Los Angeles is going to take our gas cooktops and ovens away? Not so fast. Yes, the Los Angeles City Council voted to ban most gas appliances in new construction. And when finally adopted, the motion would require new buildings to not add to the carbon dioxide pollution harming the planet – that is, be emissions-free. However, don't be alarmed by misleading headlines. Korean barbecue restaurants will not be forced to switch to electric equipment and residents will not have to change all their appliances.

[Click here](#) to read SLT Co-founder and architect Scott Plante's explanation of this proposal and how it will impact you.

Noted Composer Elected to Co-chair Silver Lake's Urban Design and Preservation Committee



David Wheatley

Silver Lake's Urban Design and Preservation Committee (UDP) has a new-co-chair, David Wheatley, an award-winning organist, pianist, composer, and decades-long Silver Lake resident. David has a diverse musical background, including performing the Bach B Minor Mass with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra at The Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.; solo noontime recitals at The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles; playing the legendary Twentieth Century Fox organ with an orchestra for part of the soundtrack of "Star Trek: The Motion Picture," and playing organ for Texas Rangers baseball games. His film credits include "Curse of the Dragon" starring Bruce Lee and "The Golden Child" starring Eddie Murphy. He is passionate about preserving Silver Lake's architectural integrity and maintaining affordable housing. David was preceded as UDP co-chair by Scott Plante and Anne-Marie Johnson.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT DAVID'S BACKGROUND](#)

[ENJOY A SAMPLING OF HIS MUSIC](#)



Homeless encampments line South Venice Boulevard in Venice. (Jay L. Clendenin / Los Angeles Times)

Hot Topic: City Council Seeks Ban on Homeless Encampments Near Schools

Surprisingly (or perhaps not surprisingly) the Los Angeles City Council's proposed ban on homeless encampments within 500 feet of schools and daycare centers has become another wedge in the ongoing discussion on homelessness in L.A. According to the *Los Angeles Times*, the council voted 13-2 to draft legal language that would expand its anticamping law to educational facilities. However CD 4's Councilmember Nithya Raman and CD 11 Councilmember Mike Bonin voted against the motion. Concerned parents and Alberto M. Carvalho, superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District, testified about incidents involving homeless people outside campuses. Councilmembers noted that enforcement would include social workers, mental health specialists and others who would offer the unhoused shelter and services.

**READ THE LOS ANGELES TIMES ARTICLE AND STAY TUNED FOR
FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS**



...4, 5, 6 Herons at Home in Silver Lake!

SLT Co-chair Anne-Marie Johnson captured this photo of six herons happily living in their favorite home in Silver Lake — a tree on Tesla. Earlier this year, herons were also spotted nesting in their historic home in the reservoirs complex area just off West Silver Lake.



The first experimental pedestrian tunnel designed for school children provided a crossing under Sunset Boulevard near Micheltorena Street Elementary, photographed in 1927. Roughly 90 years later, the tunnel was closed and filled with cement, leaving no trace on the sidewalk above. (Courtesy Auto Club of Southern California archives)

In Case You Missed It

[Click here](#) to read this fascinating article which unearths the history of L.A.'s pedestrian tunnels and their roots in traffic violence.

Let Us Know!

www.silverlaketgether.com

Need help with an issue in Silver Lake? Do you have ideas that will help our neighborhood or want to share community news?

[Email Us](#)

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