

June 10, 2021



**CARING FOR OUR
NEIGHBORHOOD.**



Photo: Los Feliz Ledger

CD 4's Nithya Raman Faces Recall After Six Months in Office

According to an article in yesterday's *Los Angeles Times*, the recently-formed CD 4 for CD 4 committee served Council District 4 Councilmember Nithya Raman with a recall notice outside her Silver Lake home on Wednesday. The Times reported that the committee believes Raman's office is too inexperienced and unresponsive for her constituents to

endure a full four-year term. The recall notice also states Councilmember Raman has placed her personal homelessness ideology over constituent safety. To get a recall on the ballot in the 4th district, which stretches from Hancock Park to Sherman Oaks to Silver Lake, CD4 for CD4 organizers would need to collect more than 27,000 valid signatures (15% of registered voters in CD 4) between July and early November. Raman has 21 days to respond to the recall notice.

[READ THE LOS ANGELES TIMES ARTICLE ON RAMAN RECALL](#)

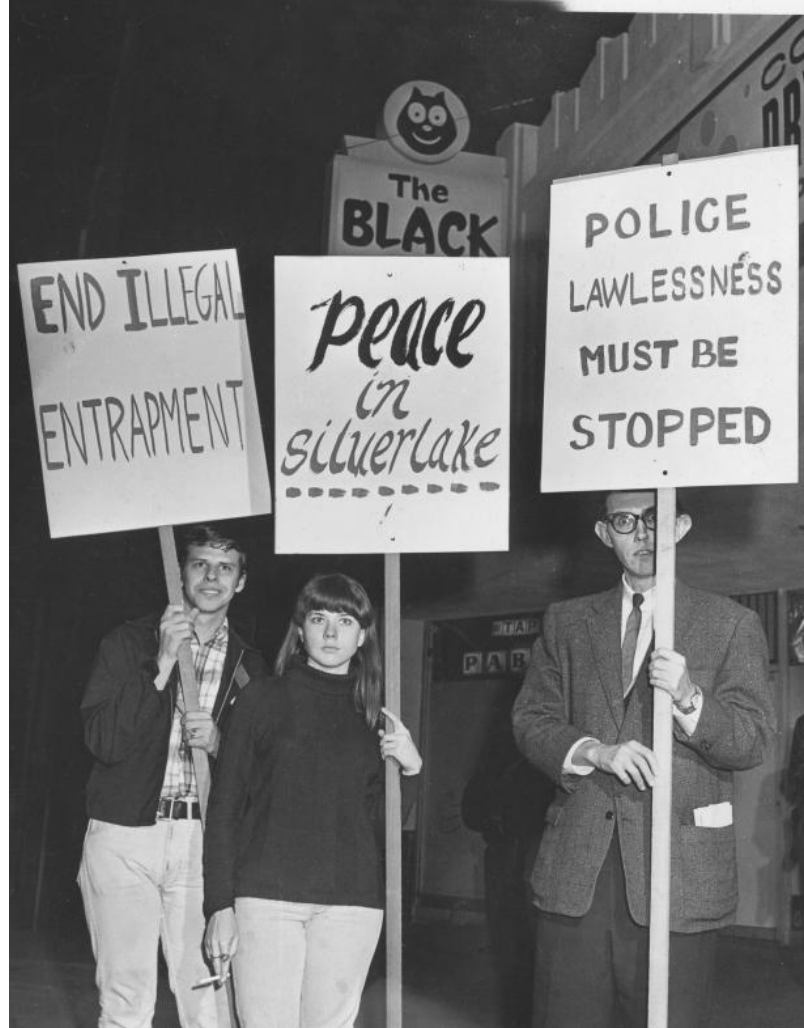
[READ THE "STATEMENT OF REASON" FOR THE RECALL](#)

Homeless Camps in Griffith Park Ignite Fire Concerns

In an earlier story, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that city park rangers cleared a small group of tents in Griffith Park, arresting a homeless man and community activists. Park rangers said they took the step because camping poses a major fire risk in Griffith Park, and because the group refused to take down their tents, which are prohibited by law in city parks. One of the people removed said he and activists had gone to the park in the belief that Councilmember Raman, who had previously spoken out about the closure of Echo Park, would let them stay.

[READ THE LOS ANGELES TIMES ARTICLE](#)

In 1967, protesters swarmed the Black Cat Tavern in Silver Lake after a New Year's Eve raid by police turned bloody. (Photo courtesy of The Gay and Lesbian Archives at USC libraries, reproduced in Los Angeles Magazine.)

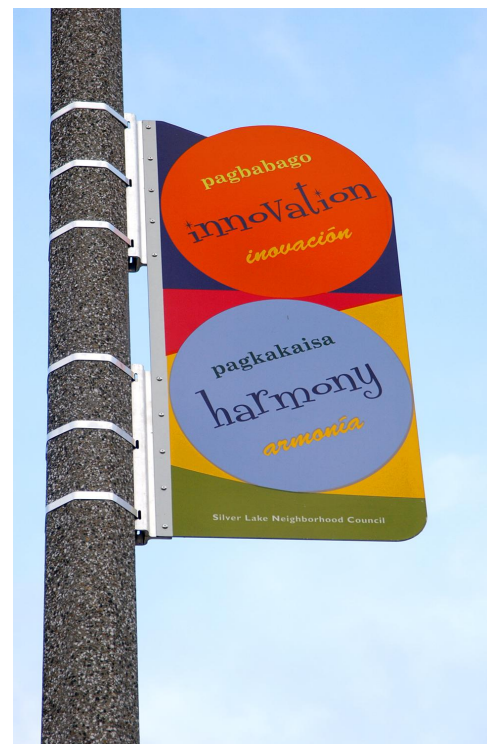


Silver Lake History Collective Interviews Tell Story of Black Cat Riot's Role in Gay Rights Movement

A brutal police crackdown on gay bars in Silver Lake, which took place during the first week of January in 1967, is credited as being the impetus for the activist movement for gay rights in America. On consecutive Saturday nights, officers from the LAPD's newly-opened Rampart Division made arrests of patrons and staff at the Black Cat and New Faces, located along the one-mile stretch of Sunset Boulevard in Silver Lake that was home to a dozen or more gay bars. Protests spread across Los Angeles and the country, cementing Silver Lake as the heart of the gay rights movement. As *Los Angeles Magazine* reported in 2019, the first march to commemorate Stonewall in 1970 was named "Christopher Street Liberation Day." But recognizing its origins in Los Angeles and Silver Lake the commemoration was accurately renamed PRIDE.

The Silver Lake History Collective produced this fascinating [interview](#) with the co-owners of Akbar. In 2017, the Collective documented the 50th anniversary of the Black Cat riot with this [reenactment](#).

There is also an [interview](#) with Alexei Romanoff who was present at the Black Cat Riot and preserved this [recording](#) of Stuart Timmons reading from his book *Gay LA* at Skylight Books.



History Collective Interview Details Story of Silver Lake Medallions

In 2007, long before diversity was a buzzword, the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council commissioned medallions celebrating the community's traditions of innovation, diversity and harmony. Designed by Cheri Gaulke, a gay parent of twin daughters who also created public art at Metro Ave 26 station, the bright colors and bold shapes of the permanent street medallions welcome people to Silver Lake with text in three languages – English, Spanish and Tagalog.

Silver Lake History Collective Co-chair Cheryl Revkin co-chaired the SLNC Neighborhood Pride Committee in 2007 when the attractive signs were installed on 35 light posts throughout Silver Lake.

[WATCH THE HISTORY COLLECTIVE INTERVIEW WITH CHERI GAULKE](#)

[SEE OTHER EXAMPLES OF CHERI'S PUBLIC ART](#)

"Take
Charge"
Signs
Popping
Up in

Silver Lake



Garden-sized signs promoting the use of electric blowers—rather than noisy, unhealthy gas leaf blowers—are sprouting up across Silver Lake, thanks to a new Silver Lake Together campaign. The advocacy organization is offering free “Take Charge” signs to residents and businesses who support the use of electric blowers, brooms and rakes and would like to encourage their neighbors to switch to an environmentally friendly option. Campaign organizers note that the noise and air pollution created by gas leaf blowers is a growing concern in Silver Lake. Gas blowers are also illegal and are dangerous to the health of the person using the blower. The eye-catching signs feature a “take charge” cartoon character.

Order your FREE "Take Charge" sign and show your support for electric leaf blowers [HERE](#).

Learn more about gas leaf blowers dangers —and penalties for their use — [HERE](#).

#DefundTheFear with listening...
Does Fame Make A Difference?

Titus Makin, Erika Alexander, Kevin Welbeck, Lora King
and Keith David
Hosted by Anne-Marie Johnson

Actor/activist and Silver Lake Together Co-founder Anne-Marie Johnson hosts third

Does Fame Make a Difference? Five African-Americans Share Personal Stories

The third episode of the compelling six-part series *TEARS: The Event Against Racism and Stereotyping* can now be viewed at www.defundthefear.com. During the half-hour program, *Defund the Fear with Listening*, celebrities and members of the minority community ask if fame makes a difference and share their personal experiences on racial profiling, thoughts on police reform, and working together to find solutions.

The new episode, hosted and co-produced by actor/activist and Silver Lake Together Co-founder Anne-Marie Johnson, features Titus Makin from *The Rookie*, Erika Alexander from *Living Single*, actor and founder of CR8TheChange Kevin Welbeck, Lora King, founder and executive director of the Rodney King Foundation and award-winning actor Keith David.

View this and other TEARS episodes at www.defundthefear.com or www.themankindproject.org



Councilmember O'Farrell Webcast Honors Black LGBTQ+ Activists for Change

CD 13 Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, in partnership with Mayor Eric Garcetti, Controller Ron Galperin, Council President Nury Martinez and Councilmember Mike Bonin, is continuing L.A.'s LGBT Heritage Month celebrations by honoring Black LGBTQ+ Activists for Change (BLAC) on *Frontline Advocate*. The program spotlights the unique needs, experiences, and contributions of Black and Black LGBTQ+ individuals and communities.

"I am honored to know and work with organizations like BLAC that are building a Los Angeles that is more just and equitable for all," said Councilmember O'Farrell.

[WATCH THE WEBCAST](#)

Booklovers
Rejoice: Silver

Lake Library Reopens



Silver Lake Library reopened its doors on Tuesday, June 1 for browsing, checking books out and WiFi and computer services (including 10 free pages of printouts). Silver Lake Branch Manager Lisa Palombi said the library is no longer charging overdue fines and it's a good time to return pandemic books. However, book clubs are still taking place on Zoom. The library is located at 2411 Glendale Boulevard.

New Library Operating Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday: 12:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

For more information, email Lisa at lpalombi@lapl.org.



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

editor@SilverLakeTogether.com

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