

April 1, 2020



CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

We are devoting this issue to news and tips about Staying Safe in Silver Lake during COVID-19, including perspectives from a student at John Marshall Senior High School and the pastor of Silver Lake Community Church.

Safer in Silver Lake

With 20 confirmed cases of the Coronavirus in Silver Lake, Mayor Eric Garcetti has issued directives for new closures at the Silver Lake Reservoirs Complex, including the Silver Lake Meadow and portions of the reservoir's heavily-trafficked pathways. According to an *Eastsider* article, Garcetti said, "It was a popular park that became too crowded to be safe this past weekend." LADWP Community Affairs Liaison Dawn Cotterall confirmed the Silver Lake Dam and Ivanhoe walking paths are closed to the public indefinitely due to the Safer at Home directive.

Last week, after receiving a number of communications from Silver Lake residents who were concerned about the lack of social distancing at the reservoirs, Silver Lake Together contacted the mayor's office, representatives of Council District 4 and 13, LADWP, and Rec and Parks. The mayor's announcement was made on March 30.

[READ THE EASTSIDER ARTICLE ABOUT RESERVOIR CLOSURES](#)



In nearby Echo Park, Bar Avalon and Eve Bottle Shop are offering prepared food, canned goods and fresh produce. Customers are not allowed to touch goods. (Photo: Mariah Tauger / Los Angeles Times)

Silver Lake Restaurants Can Sell Grocery Items

According to a March 31 *Los Angeles Times* article, area restaurants are now allowed to sell pantry staples, dry goods and more as part of takeout or delivery services. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is developing guidelines to help restaurants safely offer grocery items for delivery or takeout and avoid confusion. A local resident submitted this [list](#) of area restaurants offering grocery delivery. The list was compiled before the new guidelines went into effect and has not been verified.

[READ THE LOS ANGELES TIMES ARTICLE](#)

Learning from the Spanish Flu of 1918-1919

The Los Angeles Evening Herald of October 11, 1918 announcing the city council's action to prevent the spread of influenza.



Los Angeles and Silver Lake coped with an influenza epidemic more than 100 years ago in 1918-1919. There were many similarities to today's COVID-19 pandemic: closures of schools and public gatherings, the toll on health care workers, debates on wearing masks, film production shutdowns, and devastating illness and deaths.

[READ MORE](#) in this fascinating history of the so-called Spanish Flu.

Learn more about how L.A. coped with the 1918-1919 Influenza epidemic in this [Los Angeles Times article](#).



Award-winning John Marshall High School serves students in Silver Lake and other communities. Sasha Rotko explains the unique challenges students face during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Navigating the Coronavirus at John Marshall

By Sasha Rotko

The coronavirus pandemic is everywhere. Not just the disease, but coverage of it. In the news, in social media, in thoughts, in prayers, in reality television, even. It's impossible to go for an hour without, at the very least, a fleeting, anxious thought of this worldwide catastrophe. As a student at John Marshall Senior High, Silver Lake's resident classic American high school, this pandemic has hit us students especially hard. Students have missed out on AP (Advanced Placement) exams, determining if college credit can be received for grueling classes taken in high school. SATs have been cancelled. Seniors' graduation, arguably one of the most important days in a student's life, has yet to be cancelled but likely will be. [READ MORE](#)



Silver Lake Dog Park Remains Open

Despite the City of Los Angeles' recent directives to close activities at the Silver Lake Reservoirs, the popular dog park remains open. Although dogs are not thought to carry the Coronavirus, some experts say COVID-19 could be transmitted through human contact with a dog, such as petting or grooming. Silver Lake Together has reached out to Council District 13 to clarify the status of the dog park.

*In the midst of
the*

Coronavirus, Painted Lady butterflies are back. (Photo by Anne-Marie Johnson)



Silver Lake Faith Communities: Bringing People Together During Physical Distancing

By Pastor Kyle Joachim

How to thrive in spite of social distancing when your organizational model revolves around bringing people together? Faith communities are some of the many groups and businesses asking this question. Silverlake Community Church (SLCC) has answered by engaging their audience through interactive online activities.

[READ MORE](#)

For information on how to volunteer with or donate to this work, email kyle@silverlakechurch.com.

Councilmember Ryu Re-introduces Citywide Rent, LADWP Bill Freeze



CD 4 Councilmember David Ryu has been fighting for rent and LADWP bill freezes to help people in Silver Lake and across Los Angeles weather the COVID-19 pandemic. After Friday's 11-hour council meeting on the Coronavirus pandemic resulted in no freeze on rent increases, Councilmember Ryu announced he would reintroduce the motion, and

called for the item to be voted on at the next council meeting.

Councilmember Ryu also introduced a resolution calling for a statewide suspension of all rent and mortgage payments during the Coronavirus pandemic emergency and a motion to freeze all rate increases from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) while Angelenos remain at home during the emergency order.

For more information on the motions, click [here](#).



Let Us Know!

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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