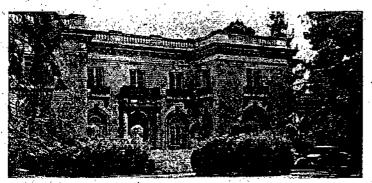


West Adams Matters

Community Unity Day West Adams Street Festival

Saturday, June 11 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

You're invited to bring neighbors, friends, and your entire family to a fun-filled festival of live music, outstanding entertainment, delicious food, great kids' activities, and, not least, access to an array of healthcare providers on Saturday, June 11, at the 6th Annual Community Unity Day, West Adams Boulevard Street Festival, and Health Fair. The event will be held on Adams Boulevard between Arlington and Third Avenue, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a SK Walk/Run commencing at 8 a.m.



The Busby Berkeley Estate will open to the public on June 11.

Community Unity Day is sponsored by Apostolic Faith Home Assembly, Inc., the United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council (UNNC), and 10th District Council Member Martin Ludlow, plus partnering organizations including West Adams Heritage Association, West Adams Avenues neighborhood association, the California 5-A-Day Nutrition Program, and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Expect great music from such performers and groups as Kishin Daiko, a multicultural Japanese drumming group, Francis Awe and the Nigerian Talking Drum Ensemble, and singer/songwriter Monique DeBose, whose music falls in jazz/pop/soul traditions. (DeBose is the daughter of longtime

West Adams residents Herman and Maureen DeBose.) "GeeBo" the Clown will help entertain your kids. In addition, Los Angeles City Animal Services (promoting spay and neuter clinics), and the MTA will be on hand. Health providers including the American Cancer Association, Community Health Councils, and Minority AIDS Project will have testing facilities and information booths. Attendees will also get to munch on both free food (burgers and dogs) and healthy alternatives from vendors selling their wares.

(continued on page 8)

LAST CALL FOR ADVANCE TICKETS!

Historic Bungalows of Jefferson Park: A Home Tour—Saturday, June 4

Spend the day in Jefferson Park, and discover a unique pocket neighborhood that blends past and present. On Saturday, June 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., during West Adams Heritage Association's Annual Spring Historic Home and Architecture Tour, you are invited to visit nine timeless Craftsman bungalows and cottage gems — all with beautiful interiors and most never opened to the public before.

Check-in at 3453 2nd Avenue (south of Jefferson Boulevard, four blocks west of Arlington.) This is a self-guided walking/driving tour; visitors may go in any order, and may start at any time during the day (but don't forget: doors close at 4 p.m.).

(continued on page 7)

Evening Stroll in North University Park

Wednesday, June 1 6-8 p.m.

Espresso Cart will be placed at 1163 West 27th Street

Please join WAHA on an Evening Stroll through North University Park, a historic community filled with Victorian era treasures and Craftsman delights, just north of the USC campus.

As you walk through tree-lined streets reminiscent of the 19th century, you'll discover a residence that was home to an Indian princess AND a Catholic rebel, Mrs. Susan Wilshire's rented digs, and (continued on page 2)



PRESERVATION MATTERS Bernays House Centennial 4 AROUND THE HOUSE Resources 6 COMMUNITY MATTERS Community Unity Day 8 WAHA BOARD MEMBERS 10

IS THIS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER?

WAHA sent out dues renewal notices in March for the membership year 2005-2006 (the membership year runs April to April). If you haven't paid your dues for the coming year yet, this will be your last newsletter. However, if you joined late in 2004, WAHA extends your membership through the following year. If you are not sure of your status -- but want to guarantee that your newsletter keeps coming -- please contact Candy Wynne, candywynne@yahoo.com or 323-735-3749.

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North University Park Stroll

continued from page 1

the birthplace of Adlai Stevenson, among other gems. Learn about the former home of Jessie Benton Fremont, daughter of a Senator and widow of the famous "Pathfinder."

John C. Fremont, and about the history of the nation's first Greek-letter organization established by Black college women.

North
University Park is now home to two National
Register Historic Districts (the new one, named, not-coincidentally, "North University Park" plus the Menlo Avenue-29th Street District), along



Jessie Benton Fremont in 1902

with being a local historic District, so along with learning about interesting people you'll see important historic architecture on your stroll, including some of L.A.'s oldest homes. The architectural styles range from Eastlake to Victorian Italianate to Queen Anne to Craftsman to Mediterranean. And the architects were famous, including Bradbeer & Ferris, Arthur Heineman, Joseph Cather Newsom, and John C. Austin. Sumner Hunt designed a number of homes, including an 1890s home that has been incorporated into the Roger Williams Baptist Church in this neighborhood.

And don't forget to visit the Espresso cart, which will be placed in front of Miller and Herriott House, now owned by WAHA Board member (and erstwhile USC booster) Clayton DeLeon (on the corner of Magnolia — west of Hoover, south of Adams). Parking should be readily available on the street, since USC is not in session.

The Stroll is from 6-8 p.m. Coffee drinks are free to the first 50 "customers." Homes can only be viewed from the outside – no open houses. Say hello to neighbors, meet new friends, bring out your (leashed) dogs for a walk, and get a close-up look at this wonderful neighborhood.

And, mark your calendars NOW for Wednesday, July 13, when WAHA strolls through Lafayette Square. The Espresso cart will be place in the center of the Square, on the St. Charles Place median.

WAHA's Star Spangled 4th of July Monday, July 4, 1 - 4 p.m.

Bring the kids — your own or someone else's — and wear your summer whites or patriotic attire at WAHA's annual 4th of July picnic, which will be on Monday, July 4, from 1 to 4 p.m. at 2515 and 2523 4th Avenue, David Raposa, Ed Trosper, Terri Klass, and Melissa Garsen are co-hosting WAHA's annual event celebrating America's birthday on their adjacent properties just north of Adams Boulevard in the West Adams Avenues neighborhood. Live music and lots of fun is on the schedule. As always, Wa-hot dogs will be for sale, cold drinks are on the house, and the potluck theme is summertime picnic — please bring salads, main dishes, desserts, or fruits (enough for at least 10 people, please!) to share.

And, Vote on the Best Exterior Paint Jobs

Each year WAHA acknowledges all the hard work West Adams residents put in to beautify our community. So we will once again vote on the best RECENT exterior paint jobs in the 'hood. Please feel free to nominate any paint job completed in the past 12 months (June 1, 2005) within the greater. Historic West Adams District and our expanded area (Exposition to Olympic; 110 Freeway to West Boulevard). This is a good opportunity for people outside your immediate neighborhood to not only know about major improvements throughout the West Adams community but also give them a chance to see them.

All nominations, with address and homeowner's name, should go to Ed Trosper (2515 4th Avenue, Historic West Adams, Los Angeles 90018; 323/730-0432 fax, or e-mail: edtrosper@aol.com). We will have photos of the nominated houses displayed at the 4th of July event. Voting is between 2 and 3 p.m.

ORANGE COUNTY CRAFTSMAN Anaheim Arts & Crafts Home Tour 2005

Sunday, June 12, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Anaheim Historical Society presents a self-guided tour of eight historic homes built in the Arts & Crafts style. Tickets (\$20) are available in advance through www.AnaheimHistoricalSociety.com, or by mailing a check and SASE to the Anaheim Historical Society, PO Box 927, Anaheim CA 92815. Or, pay CASH at the tour starting point on the day of event at the Red Cross House, 418 N. West Street (just north of West Lincoln). For more information, call 714-491-8353.

This tour is being presented in conjunction with the annual Arts & Crafts Californian Conference & Show running June 10 -12 in Anaheim, so you can make a long day of it. For more information, visit www.artsandcrafts-grand.com.

Wellington Square Neighborhood Yard Sale

Saturday, June 25, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

You're invited to the annual Wellington Square Association neighborhood yard sale! Something for everyone – four blocks of great stuff. Housewares, clothes, furniture, lighting, electronics, records, automotive, videos, appliances, garden items, jewelry, sporting goods, antiques, books, magazines, kitchen items, samples, art, baby things, toys, games, and collectibles.

Butterflies Are Back!

Hundreds of butterflies now fill the Robinsons-May Pavilion of Wings at the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park.

Back for its seventh summer, the Pavilion of Wings exhibit runs through Monday, September 5 (Labor Day). The Natural History Museum's live butterfly exhibition lets visitors experience free-flying butterflies while strolling through a native landscaped pavilion on the Museum's South Lawn. Through the summer, some 7,000 individual butterflies and moths will call the Pavilion home. Included among the 30 U.S. native butterfly and moth species are the giant swallowtail, the monarch, the American painted lady, and our official state butterfly, the California dogface. Guests watch butterflies visit flowers in search of nectar, observe caterpillars feeding, learn which garden plants attract butterflies, and even witness an adult emerging from its chrysalis.

Robinsons-May Pavilion of Wings Admission: Special ticketed admission applies. \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors and students and \$1 for children ages 5 to 12. Tickets are sold in half-hour time slots throughout the day. Natural History Museum members receive free admission and the first available tickets, with the last ticket slot available at 4:30 p.m. Museum admission is a separate price.

For 24-hour Museum information call 213-763-DINO or visit http://www.nhm.org/.

Preservation Matters

Bernays House Celebrates Its Centennial Birthday by Marianne Muellerleile

My husband, Tom Norris, and I purchased our wonderful West Adams home shortly after we married in 1988. Over the years we've worked hard to restore our grande dame, and along the way have learned a lot of history about the neighborhood, the house, and the people who lived here over the years. Now we are celebrating the 100th birthday of our house, known as the "Bernays Residence," and the fact that it is now officially a City of Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Monument, No. 780.

The Bernays Residence is located in the Adams-Normandie neighborhood, and is a contributing structure to the West Adams-Normandie HPOZ. Prior to the latter part of the 19th Century this area was primarily agricultural. With the coming of the horse-drawn streetcars from downtown Los Angeles in the 1880's, much of the land was subdivided for residential and commercial use. In 1896 the community was annexed to the City of Los Angeles, part of the South and Western Addition. By 1910 the streetcar routes had been taken over by the Los Angeles Transit, and upgraded to electric, first with lines to Rosedale Cemetery on Washington Boulevard at Normandie Ave. This spurred residential development to the south and west.

The West Acres tract, which runs from Adams Boulevard to 23rd Street and Normandie Avenue to Raymond Avenue, was developed from the early 1890's until about 1911. Owners were upper middle class individuals who played a significant role in the professional and business life of early twentieth century Los Angeles and neighboring cities.

The prominence of these persons is reflected in job titles held and listings in biographical directories of the city's social and professional elite residents.

In 1905, Charles R. Staples, the deputy county tax collector at the time, hired architect Samuel Tilden. Norton to design a substantial, two-story American Foursquare home on West 25th Street in West Acres. Staples built the residence on speculation \$3,000. Norton (1877-1959) was becoming a prominent designer. Named after Samuel Jones Tilden, a U.S. presidential candidate and former governor of New York, Norton was a pioneer Los Angeles architect who eventually designed such buildings as the Financial Center Building, the William Fox Office Building, the Sinai Temple, the

Los Angeles Theatre, the Council of Jewish Women's Club
Building, the Jewish Orphan's Home Group, and the
famed Wilshire Boulevard Temple, among others.
Norton was a long-time member of the American

Institute of Architects, and served for many years on the Boards of the Jewish Federation, the Friends of the Hebrew University and the Zionist Organization of America. He was a founder and charter member of the Hillcrest Country Club, president or director of the Nathan Strauss Israel Society, the Professional Men's Club, the Wilshire Boulevard Temple, the Federation of Jewish Welfare Organization, and the Jewish Welfare Fund.

The 1906 northern California earthquake quickly brought Staples a buyer. Philip Sherman Bernays, a San Francisco photographer, lost his business in the quake and moved south where he thought he and his family would be safer. The family lived in the West Acres house from 1906 to 1928, and the backyard guest house became an ideal photographer's studio.

While in San Francisco, Bernays had joined the Sierra Club in 1905. Upon moving south he found many members but no chapter as any attempt to form one had failed miserably. Having become a friend and colleague of naturalist John Muir, Bernays decided the right time was now and called together club members living in the area. In October of 1911, Philip Sherman Bernays founded the Los Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Through his prominent art dealer shop at West Third Street, Bernays had contact with some of the literati of the day. He used his connections with doctors, editors, politicians, and educators to expand the Chapter and its mission of conservation. His enthusiasm and motivation was the cornerstone of 69 years of Sierra Club leadership, and continued until his death, while serving as a Trustee of the Sierra Club Foundation.

The Bernays Residence is an amalgam of styles popular in the period. It has been described as an "American Foursquare/ Craftsman or a Colonial Revival Crossover" style residence. It is a square plan house of frame construction with clapboard siding on the first floor and shingle cladding on the upper floor.

Although the architecture of the house and similar houses in the neighborhood was a huge plus when Tom and I were searching for a place to call home, it was the affordability of this property that made us eager to move in. It also helped that the previous owners had returned the house to a single family dwelling when it had been used as six apartments for many years. The work that needed to be done, albeit extensive, seemed within our reach.

Surprise! The previous owner was a window dresser for local large department stores, and he had a gift for making the hideous look spectacular. Through exquisite fabrics, fabulous antiques, and featured art, the actual condition of the home was well-disquised. Full lighting exposed uneven floors, cracked and mottled walls, sagging ceilings, missing moldings, unsecured fixtures,

Preservation Matters

and lousy electric and plumbing. The second floor porch lacked a roof which had caused persistent and extensive water damage to the kitchen and cellar. Our work was cut out for us!

We wanted to return the Bernays Residence to its previous glory. Throughout the house we have restored all baseboards, door framing, door moldings, thresholds, resurfaced all walls, ceilings, repaired electrical and plumbing system, installed floor and baseboard venting heating system, installed period hardware in purchased period doors, including window lifts, front door and mud room wall hooks. We reinforced the foundation to code, leveled floors, retrofitted pylons, and T-braced against earthquake. On the first floor we replaced destroyed flooring with white oak tongue and groove, resurfaced damaged Douglas fir flooring, replaced all lighting fixtures with period pieces including restoring sconces in entrance hall. We replaced a missing period fireplace mantle. Installed period breakfront with dentil molding in library. Rehung pocket door, rehung majority of first floor windows. Did a historically sensitive upgrade of kitchen and first-floor bathroom. On the second floor, we replaced wallpaper, restored three previously sealed off closets, restored period bathroom tiled flooring, and pitched the rear upper porch roof to conform to the rest of the roof pitch.

Outside, we restored an out building originally built as a guesthouse. Poured a new driveway. Restored and replaced missing clapboard and shingle cladding before complete resurfacing and repainting of house and out building, had custom-made period screens for front door and several windows installed, gutters restored, replaced iron security bars with interior security system and exterior security lighting, hard wired fire alarm and outside automatic gas shutoff valve. We replaced and restored the front porch floor, ceiling, lighting fixture and mailbox. Built redwood and Douglas fir deck with period railings and banisters adjoining rear of building, including partial roofing to conform to the rest of the roof pitch. Landscaped rear and front gardens and installed sprinkler systems and fencing.

Whew!

Now it's time to party! In June we are observing our home's centennial with an Open House. It's been great fun planning it, and we would encourage other WAHA residents to think about commemorating the 100th birthdays of their own homes as well. ●

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Around the House

Resources by Suzie Henderson, Resources Columnist

The sky is sunny, at last, the roses are in bloom and it's time to plan those summer projects, vacations, and parties. Thanks to Jennifer Charnofsky for her resource suggestions this month.

If stripping is part of your summer plans, Jennifer recommends Soy Gel, a nontoxic paint and varnish remover made from soybeans. Soy Gel has no odor and is very effective. She first saw it demonstrated at a national Renovation conference in Cleveland several years ago. Jennifer used it on a window seat on her sun porch and says the results were perfect. This is a great product, especially if you are concerned about the toxic effects of ordinary paint stripper on you, the workers stripping paint in your house, and/or the environment. It is thick and may be used easily on vertical surfaces. Soy Gel is available by mail order from the manufacturer. Soy Gel and other nontoxic products are also available at Green Buildings Supply.

If getting in shape is your summer project, Jennifer can solve that problem, as well. She has been taking low impact jujitsu classes for several months now. It's geared to, shall we say, mature adults. She says that it is great fun, and guaranteed to increase your flexibility and strength. There are 3 to 5 older folks in the class and some teens and twenties too, who take it as an extra class because they're fairly serious about studying jujitsu. The instructor, who has high level black belts in various martial arts, is wonderfully patient and accommodating for their various physical situations. Jennifer says, "He's an excellent teacher, too, and since I'm a teacher I don't pass out that compliment lightly." The class meets Tuesday evenings at 8:00 pm, right here in West Adams.

Going on vacation? Jennifer solves your house and pet sitter needs with this suggestion.

McGee Leonard is a young woman who works professionally with animals. She will either come to your house twice a day to take care of dogs and/or cats, or she will move in while you're gone. Her prices are reasonable (it costs less if she comes twice a day) and she provides loving care. They were very satisfied with the condition of their cats, when she took care of their house for awhile. The house was in good shape too!

If you just need someone to check on your pets or walk the dogs, I highly recommend my neighbor, Geoff Williams. He is trustworthy and our Lulu loves him. I often call him, when I am just going to be gone for a long time during the day.

For those summer soirees, Jennifer recommends Heather Evans (Leslie's sister), who freelances as a catering assistant and bartender. She's done catering work for decades and is excellent. I second her recommendation. I met Heather through friends outside of WAHA, who have used her many times. I was supervising an event for them and was very impressed with her professionalism.

Won't you take a moment today and send me your great recommendations or stern warnings? I can be reached at WestAdamsGoddess@AOL.com. Have a great month and take some time to enjoy the roses.

Franmar, the distributors of Soy Gel 800-538-5069 www.franmar.com

Green Building Supply www.greenbuildingsupply.com/ Public/home/index.cfm

Heather Evans heatheres@comcast.net 323-782-9529

Jujitsu 323-788-1365 www.fullcirclejujitsu.com/

McGee Leonard 323-650-9106

Geoffrey Williams 323-731-1856



WAHA Matters

Bungalow Tour continued from page 1

This tour focuses specifically on homes located in Jefferson Park — between Jefferson and Exposition Boulevards, and between Arlington and 4th Avenue.

Jefferson Park's bungalows are particularly remarkable for their consistency of style and historic integrity. Most of the modest, one-story homes, originally built for less than \$3,500, are about 1,500 square feet, with characteristic features of the Arts and Crafts movement, such as covered porches, built-in china cabinets, bookcases with original leaded glass, trundle beds, double Dutch entry doors, and decorative moldings. Natural building materials, such as limestone and sandstone, which were used for pillars and chimneys, are features particularly unique to Jefferson Park.

Saturday, June 4, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Advance tickets: \$15 At the door: \$20 (Last ticket sold at 3 p.m. sharp) tour@JeffersonPark.info www.JeffersonPark.info

We encourage visitors to explore our neighborhood more completely. Jefferson Park has several restaurants and bakeries just a few blocks from the tour location – perfect for mid-tour break – plus our own West Adams Girl Scout troop will have a lemonade/sweets stand. Comfortable walking shoes are advised – no high heels, please.

To order advance tickets: Please send your name, telephone number, e-mail address, number of tickets, and a check made payable to "WAHA" and mail to: "Jefferson Park Tour," 2330 West 31st Street, Los Angeles, CA 90018. We'll confirm your ticket order by phone or e-mail; pick tickets up the day of event at check-in. Or, pay at the door: \$20.

We do need volunteers as docents or ticket takers. Contact Erin Sullivan at (323) 733-2188, or via e-mail ersull@usa.net. For more information about the tour call 323-871-8554 or e-mail tour@JeffersonPark.info

A century after its beginnings, neighbors would like to preserve the community's heritage. Jefferson Park has been proposed as a potential "HPOZ" (Historic Preservation Overlay Zone) in the City of Los Angeles, but because of local and statewide budget shortfalls there will not be a City budget allocation for an HPOZ survey in this neighborhood in the foreseeable future. As a result, active residents have decided to begin to move the process along on a volunteer-driven basis. Net proceeds have been designated to help fund a survey of the historic properties (some 1,750 in all) in the Jefferson Park neighborhood.

Please help support these efforts, and visit the Historic Bungalows of Jefferson Park on Saturday, June 4.

Preservation Begins At Home



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AVAILABLE:

Unusual Norman Revival with original light fixtures, tiled bathroom and turreted breakfast room. \$529,000 - Adam Janeiro, 323-733-0446

Corning in June Harvard Heights HPOZ Craftsman, 2-Story, 4 bedrooms with spectacular natural woodwork, original ight fixtures. 1651 S. Oxford. \$729,000 - David Raposa

IN ESCROW:

West Park Craftsman Bungalow Duplex - Adam Janeiro (Buyer's agent)

Hermon Classic Split Level - Adam Janeiro (Buyer's agent)

Avenues Bungalow - Contributing structure to West Adams Terrace

HPOZ. David Raposa (Buyer's agent)

Eagle Rock Mid-Century - Adam Janeiro (Buyer's agent)

SOLD

Mid-City Condo - Affordable studio apt; walk to Wilshire shops/ restaurants. 525 S. Ardmore #237. \$151,750. Adam Janeiro (Seller's agent). Congratulations, Dislenia Melendez

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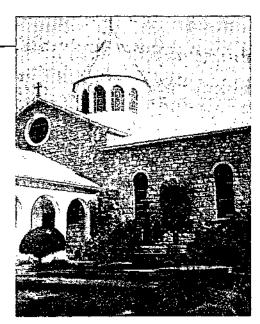
Monday-Friday: 7:30 am 12 Noon: 2-5 pm Saturday: 7:30 am -2 pm Sunday: 10 am -12 Noon

Community Matters

Community Unity Day continued from page 1

WAHA's role is (of course!) to organize tours of a few nearby historic properties, and to prepare a brochure about the cultural heritage of Adams Boulevard, "The Street of Dreams." At press time, the Guasti Villa/Peace Labyrinth and Gardens (the former Busby Berkeley Estate) and the Apostolic Faith church sanctuary (with its beautiful murals and stained glass) are slated to open their doors to visitors, from 12 to 3 p.m. WE NEED DOCENTS! Please contact Sean O'Brien, 323-732-1503, or Laura Meyers, 323-737-6146, if you would like to volunteer (one shift, beginning at 11:15 and including on-the-spot docent training).

Apostolic Faith Home Assembly, Inc. (AFHA) is a faith-based organization located in Central Los Angeles for over 80 years, and in West Adams since the early 1960s. Apostolic Faith was born out of the great 1906 Azusa Street revival in Los Angeles, led by the African-American preacher William Joseph Seymour. Seymour opened the historic meeting in April, 1906 in a former African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church building at 312 Azusa Street in downtown Los Angeles. For over three years, the Azusa Street "Apostolic Faith Mission"



conducted three services a day, seven days a week, where thousands of seekers received the tongues baptism. Word of the revival was spread abroad through *The Apostolic Faith*, a paper that Seymour sent free of charge to some 50,000 subscribers.

Though the original mission soon shut its doors, the Apostolic Faith Home Assembly, as it is known today, eventually continued on with Elder William A. Carson. A native of Chicago, who had previously founded and established several churches in the Midwest, Elder Carson arrived in Los Angeles with only seventy-five cents in his pocket in April 1922. He began to hold nightly prayer meetings. Carson began conducting "tent" revival meetings, first at 14th and Hooper, then at 18th and Hooper. People started coming from other churches (all denominations) from all over the city. The congregation grew. In 1923, a foundation was laid for a church building on East 33rd Street. Some forty years later, Apostolic Faith Home Assembly moved to larger quarters again, this time to "Church Row," on West Adams Boulevard in Historic West Adams.

Today, AFHA hosts a community-based, multi-level, culturally-sensitive nutrition and physical activity health promotion program that addresses the growing problems of cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, some cancers, preventable disabilities and preventable deaths, particularly focused on low-income adults and children in urban inner-city Los Angeles neighborhoods. An epidemic of child, adolescent and adult overweight and obesity has been declared by the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, which reported that in the year 2000 one out of three children in the county were overweight or at risk for overweight and/or obesity. The AFHA Nutrition and Physical Activity Program and its associated "California 5-A-Day" nutrition curriculum effectively focus on personal and public health as it contributes to the well-being of the community as a whole.

You won't want to miss seeing the Guasti Villa, Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument No. 478, one of the jewels in the crown of landmarks in Historic West Adams. This gracious Beaux Arts/Italian Renaissance villa was designed in 1910 by Hudson and Munsell and built over four years for Secundo Guasti, an Italian immigrant who made his fortune at the turn of the 20th century by establishing the world's largest vineyard in Rancho Cucamonga. Guasti spared no expense in constructing his Los Angeles home, with its imposing balustraded roof, fountains and sculpted marble lions guarding the entrance. The dramatic interior with Renaissance-style friezes, Cararra marble and carved mahogany was perfect for the many parties the Guastis held for stars and dignitaries, including Mussolini's son, according to architectural historian Sam Watters.





Community Matters

After the Guasti era, renowned movie producer-director Busby Berkeley, famed for his musical extravaganzas, bought the estate. After later owners added residential wings onto the villa, the current owner began to undertake the painstaking restoration process, both inside and out. Today, the Peace Labyrinth and Gardens at the Guasti Villa is known for its beauty, simplicity and tranquility. The flagstone courtyard and labyrinth level garden have reflecting pools, fountains, flowering plants, a rose-covered pergola and a hand-cut stone labyrinth fashioned after the Chartres Cathedral Labyrinth. On the lowest level is a peaceful, Bali-inspired meditation garden with many water features, sculptures, and exotic plants.

Peace Labyrinth and Gardens is a place where people from many different spiritual traditions can enjoy the peace of a retreat without leaving the city. They can walk the labyrinth, experience the meditation garden, or check out the regularly scheduled meditation events and seminars. The property is also home to the Movement of Spiritual Inner Awareness (MSIA), an ecumenical church founded by John-Roger, and Peace Theological Seminary and College of Philosophy (PTS). MSIA teaches soul transcendence, which is becoming aware of yourself as a soul and as one with God. PTS focuses on practical spirituality, offering masters and doctoral programs, classes on the internet, and retreats, workshops and classes at locations around the world as well as at the Guasti Villa in West Adams.

The Nigerian Talking Drum Ensemble was founded in 1985 by Master Drummer Francis Awe, in response to the growing international interest in the Talking Drum. Since its inception, the Ensemble of drummers and dancers has educated and entertained audiences worldwide.

The Yoruba name for the Talking Drum is Dundun, which means "sweet sound." It is called the Talking Drum because its sound emulates the tonal quality of the Yoruba language. Based in Los Angeles, the Ensemble has performed at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Disneyland, the Los Angeles Theatre Center, and the Celebration for Nelson Mandela at the Los Angeles Coliseum; as well as at major cultural festivals such as the African Marketplace, the Los Angeles Festival and the World Festival of Sacred Music.

Kishin Daiko is a multi-cultural, multi-generational taiko group based at the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center in West Covina, California. Formed in November of 1993 from a group once known as West Covina Taiko, Kishin literally means to return to the "heart" or to return to one's roots. Today there are over 70 members, including a 20-member children's group, Kishin Sho Daiko, consisting of children age 4 to 12. Kishin is one of the busiest groups in Southern California, performing about 60 times a year. For the past few years they have been featured at the start and finish of the Revion Walk/Run at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Singer/songwriter Monique DeBose's sound and music is emotional and covers a vast musical landscape, ranging from pop to rock to jazz to soul. Her debut album, Choose the Experience, vol. 1: Ready for Love, is being met with a great response in the UK and she is in the midst of planning a UK tour in August.

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This year we will be honoring former board member Susan R. Peck who will receive the second annual June Dunbar Award for excellence in community service. We will also be honoring our client of the year. Enjoy brunch in this gracious setting knowing you are also helping to provide both short-term emergency and long term affordable housing

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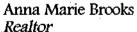
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Calendar

WAHA June-July Calendar

Wednesday, June 1 6-8 p.m. – Evening Stroll in North University Park (see page 1)

Saturday, June 4: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. – "Historic Bungalows of Jefferson Park" tour (see page 1)

Saturday, June 4: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. – NANDC Neighborhood Council Governing Board Election, EPIC Senior Center Ballroom, 3980 S. Menlo Ave, in Exposition Park (WAHA members are stakeholders – please vote after the tour!)

Saturday, June 11: Community Unity Day and West Adams Boulevard Street Festival PLUS tours of Peace Gardens and Labyrinth at Guasti Villa/Busby Berkeley Estate (see page 1)

Thursday, June 23: 7 p.m. - WAHA Board Meeting

Saturday, June 25: Wellington Square Neighborhood Yard Sale (see page 3)

Monday, July 4 1-4 p.m. – WAHA's Annual 4th of July Summertime Picnic, held this year on Fourth Avenue (see page 3)

Wednesday: July 13 6-8 p.m. – Evening Stroll in Lafayette Square

WAHA Presents
Historic Bungalows
Of Jefferson Park:
A Home Tour

Saturday, June 4

10 a.m. = 4 p.m.
Advance tickets: \$15
At the door: \$20
(Last ticket sold at 3 p.m. sharp)
tour@JeffersonPark.info
www.JeffersonPark.info

Spend the day in Jefferson Park, and discover a unique pocket neighborhood that blends past and present. On Saturday, June 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. during West Adams Heritage Association's Annual Spring Historic Home and Architecture Tour, you are invited to visit nine timeless Craftsman bungalows and cottage gems—all with beautiful interiors and most never opened to the public before (see page 1).

The WAHA Newsletter is a publication of the West Adams Heritage Association. Members and supporters of WAHA are invited to submit articles to the Newsletter. Letters will be published subject to space constraints and will be cut for length if necessary. Articles will be published subject to acceptance by the editors of the WAHA Board. Advertising is subject to the approval of the publishers. Although the Association appreciates its many fine advertisers, the Association does not accept responsibility for claims made by advertisers. Services and products are not tested and appearance of advertising does not imply, nor does it constitute, endorsement by the West Adams Heritage Association. Copyright 2005. All rights for graphic and written material appearing in the newsletter are reserved. Contact Director of Publications for permission,



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