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**BHC'S MISSION**

**Conservancy Mission Statement**

*The Baldwin Hills Conservancy's mission is to acquire open space and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area and to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat within the territory for the public's enjoyment and educational experience.*

**QUICK LINKS**

- [Conservancy Meetings](#)
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**VISIT US**

WELCOME to the [Baldwin Hills Conservancy's](#) Official Newsletter, **THE PARK VIEW**. Each quarter we will be sending out updates and information on the work of the Conservancy, as well as activities that are happening at Kenneth Hahn Park and the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook.

We're excited about the activities and programs for the 2013 New Year, and we want to make sure that we keep you engaged and informed on what's going on in your community.

Please take a moment to sign up for our Mailing List, as well as read the articles in this issue of **THE PARK VIEW**. If you're interested in attending any of our public Board Meetings, please visit the "Quick Links" section find the list of dates for upcoming Conservancy Meetings.

Lastly, to learn more about the beauty and the experience of hiking at the [Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook](#), please CLICK LINK to read the November 24th, LA Times Article, "[L.A. Walks: City Views from Baldwin Hills.](#)" by Charles Fleming.

Again, welcome to **THE PARK VIEW** and we'll be in contact soon.

**Chair's Corner**

**Dr. Allan Boodnick, Board Chairman**



Now in the Conservancy's eleventh year, 2012 is shaping up as a wonderful one for the parklands, the adjacent communities, and the thousands of individuals who enjoy the parkland's facilities each week. Whether it's walking miles of trails; fishing in the lake; enjoying the plant, animal and insect habitat; learning from the exhibits and classes, having a family gathering,



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playing various sports, or enjoying the 360-degree view of the entire Los Angeles basin, the promise of the Baldwin Hills Park is very much alive.

Working with \$50 million in voter approved bonds, we have increased public land holdings in Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area by over 30 percent through acquisition of additional parcels and improvements to park facilities. New entrances, trails and habitat projects have expanded the range of resources available to visitors. Step-by-step, we are moving toward reaching our goal of a world-class park.

All of this has only been possible because of the vast support of the Governor, the State Legislature, the Los Angeles County Second District, Culver City, City of Los Angeles, those who serve on the board, community members, non-profit partners and other interested entities who attend our meetings, and the Conservancy staff who bring it all together.

It continues to be my privilege to serve on the board for over ten years, to work with outstanding colleagues, and to be part of an unfolding dream. Please look through this newsletter and share it with your friends and neighbors. Also, if you haven't yet done so, visit the park often, enjoy its beauty and its ever- expanding and uplifting qualities.

## *The Baldwin Hills Gateway*

### **Starlett Quarles, Board Member**

Have you noticed those beautiful new sculptured panels along the Kenneth Hahn State Recreational Bridge? Called the Baldwin Hills Gateway, these artistic rails were designed by artist Cliff Garten and mark the entry into the Baldwin Hills Parklands, the last two-square miles of open space in the Los Angeles Basin.



The 150' long bridge rail is a nearly eight-foot high undulating screen perforated with a pattern interpreting the ridgelines and the grasslands of the Baldwin Hills, as well as the landscape disturbance created by the oil infrastructure. The project also incorporates new native plant landscaping along the egress and ingress ramps to and from La Cienega Blvd.



**Baldwin Hills Gateway**

The Baldwin Hills Gateway is a collaborative project funded by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy. Partners that helped deliver the project include Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation and Public Works, along with Culver City, City of L.A., the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI), Mia Lehrer and Cliff Garten. It reinforces the planned linkage of the East and West Ridges of the Baldwin Hills, setting the stage for the Park to Playa Regional Trail that will connect the Parklands to the Ballona Creek Bike Path and ultimately the Pacific Coast Trail.

On October 26, 2012, the Conservancy hosted a dedication ceremony to commemorate this artistic expression of our surrounding landscape. The program included Conservancy staff and board members; along with Veronica Hani, LANI; Culver City Mayor Andy Weissman; Dr. Alan Boodnick, BHC Board Chair; Assemblywoman Holly Mitchell of the 47th Assembly District; and Director Russ Guiney, LA County Parks & Recreation; all pictured above.



**BHC Board Members**



**Guests at the Dedication**



## Message from the E.D.

**David McNeill, Executive  
Director**



Our work of creating parks for future generations is important; however preparing our youth for the parks we create is where the challenge really begins. As a State agency, we strive to provide the public with information about the natural areas of the Parklands allowing the casual park user to understand his or her role in the area's ecosystem.

Through directional signage, educational nodes, monuments and presentations, the Conservancy has been the portal for many community members to learn about California's conservation priorities and the region's unique native wildlife. With thousands of visitors coming to exercise, picnic, hike and play in the Parklands, the integration of watershed health into the community's lifestyle is a key strategy in building advocacy for the environment.



Our initiatives successfully promote the science-based elements of habitat restoration work through programs that include hands on seed collection, plant propagation, soil preparation and native plantings within the territory. The learning experience in the Parklands can lead to careers in landscape design, science, or even resource management. The Prop 40 and Prop 84 local assistance programs administered by the Conservancy have helped our non-profit partners build two on-site greenhouses and created ongoing stewardship opportunities and earth science study modules for youth from Dorsey, Crenshaw, and Culver City High Schools.

To learn more please visit: [Generation Water](#) or [L.A. Audubon](#)

## Society

The Parklands are an excellent bridge to usher in the next generation of leaders and help insure the last large open space in the watershed is understood and protected.

Folks in the community who have college degrees and professional experience working in outdoor recreation planning and programs should consider taking this month's examination for the Conservancy's Associate Park and Recreation Specialist position.

[Click here](#) to begin a career in California State Parks.

## *FYI: What is Fracking Anyway?*



### **Q: What is Hydraulic Fracturing?**

A: Hydraulic fracturing is a post-drilling well stimulation technique that is used to release petroleum, natural gas, or other subsurface resources from geological formations for extraction.

### **Q: Are there different types of Hydraulic Fracturing?**

A: Yes, depending on the resources being sought, different types of techniques are used. For example, the techniques in Pennsylvania, New York and Colorado are used to extract natural gas. In California, different techniques are used because the primary target is oil.

### **Q: Is Hydraulic Fracturing happening in the Inglewood Oil Field?**

A: According to PXP, over the life of the oil field, a number of conventional hydraulic fracturing treatments have been conducted.

### **Q: Does Hydraulic Fracturing cause earthquakes?**

A: There are studies being conducted worldwide to determine if hydraulic fracturing causes earthquakes. Thus far, most findings have been subject to scientific and public debate, leading to calls for more research. Most scientists do agree that deep underground injection of fluids into Class II wells can induce small seismic events called micro-earthquakes, which are thought to be too small to be detected by people at the surface.

## *Life at The Overlook*

The [Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook](#) is more than just break taking views and the preservation of our natural habitat, but an experience for every age.



### **Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook**

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