

APRIL 2024

# PALISADES

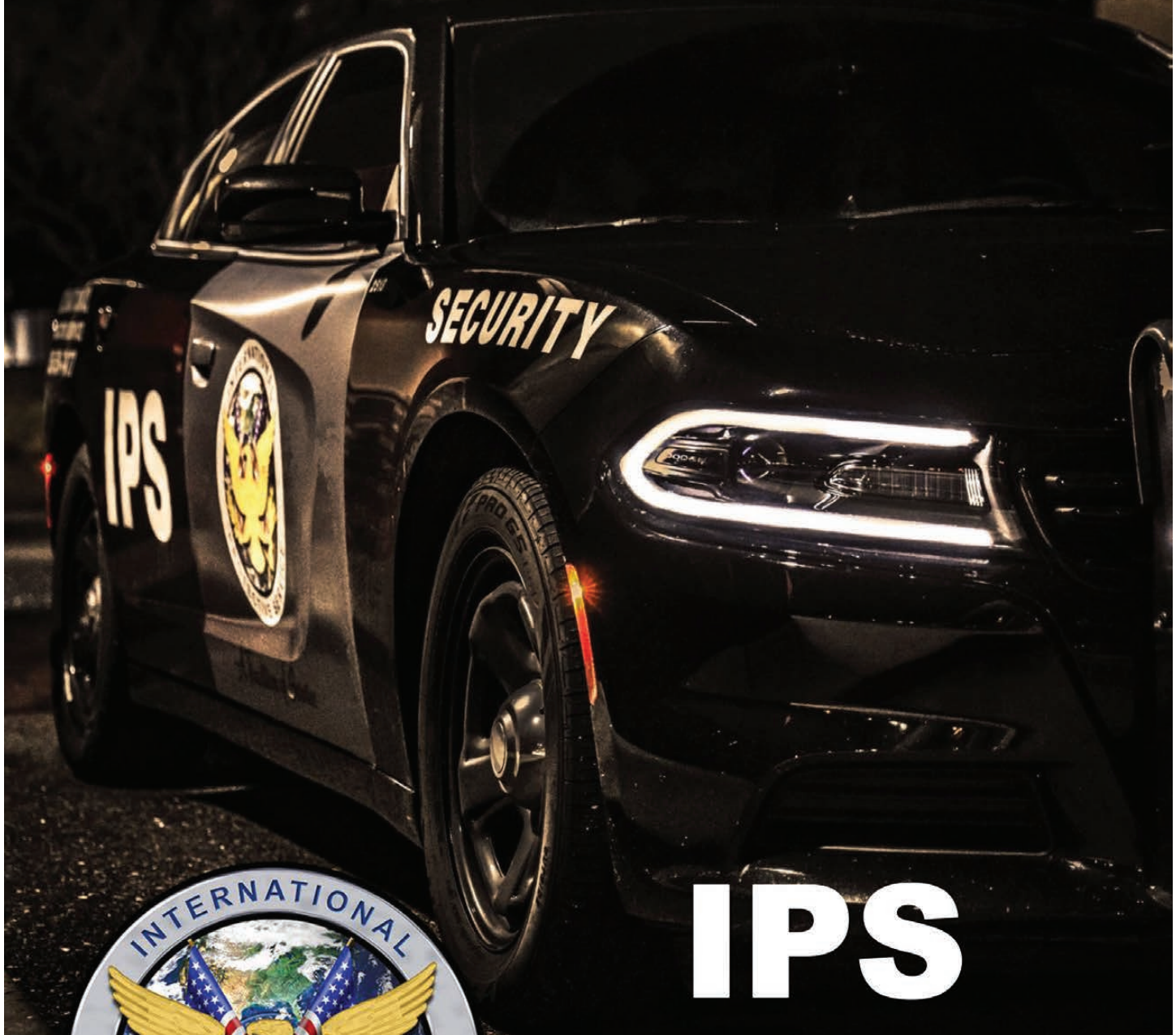
## NEIGHBORS



### Vivian Foster: A Palisades Fashion Legend

Photo by Diane Elder

*“The right company, at the right time.”*



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## PALISADES NEIGHBORS

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### Dear Residents,

April is the pied piper of Spring, luring us out of our cozy winter caves with his magic flute and into the glories of blue skies, green leaves, and the scent of fresh-sprung flowers.

*“From you have I been absent in the spring, When proud-pied April, dressed in all his trim, Hath put a spirit of youth in everything, That heavy Saturn laughed and leaped with him.”* - Sonnet 98, William Shakespeare

Be sure to check our calendar for all the wonderful Spring events that will make you want to get out and into the fresh air. Don't miss our feature story on Vivian Foster of Vivian's Boutique, who can find the perfect outfit for your Spring outings. Having been here for 40 years, Vivian is a Palisades institution and a fashion treasure who has seen our village grow into the sought-after community it is today.

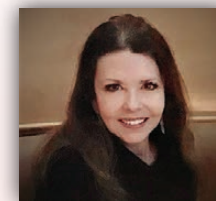
And speaking of history, the Palisades Historical Society is joining *Palisades Neighbors* with fun facts and interesting stories you never knew about our neighborhood's past.

We'll be circling back to catch up with one of our early "covergirls", Jackie Caster (September 2022), and the charity she founded, Everychild, which turns 25 this month!

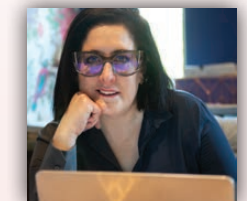
Have you ever wondered why tax day is on April 15? Our new young writer, Selby Kia, will explain it all for you.

All this and more in this month's issue... enjoy and when you get the chance ... dance!

*Diane Elder*



**Diane Elder,**  
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**Jenna Heling,**  
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These are the area professionals who make their expertise available to the magazine and to you. As always send us your questions and we'll get them answered here for everyone to read or feel free to contact our experts directly.



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Palisades Neighbors is all about bringing people together and fostering a closer-knit community! Check out the many ways that you can contribute to and take advantage of your monthly neighborhood magazine:

If you have a submission or feature idea, email Amy Sommer at [asommer@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:asommer@bestversionmedia.com) with your name and submission info.

We look forward to hearing your ideas!



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Buyer Beware: Watch What You Click When Shopping for a Home!

By Fran Flanagan | Flanagan Jones Group

Buyer's agents usually reach out to Listing agents to make appointments to see listed properties. Sometimes, the buyer reaches out to tour a home directly through a third-party site or app. On those property descriptions, there often is an icon with an agent's name and a small photo of that agent. The buyer is asked if they would like to make an appointment to see the property and they click that button – and then all of a sudden, this third-party agent is "representing" them. The buyer thinks they are just going to see a house they are interested in....



LITTLE DID THEY KNOW!

What buyers don't realize is that these agents are usually not the listing agent, have not seen the property and cannot answer basic questions about it. Often, they are agents who pay these services or are salaried by these

third-party companies to get the leads that come from buyers clicking on appointment requests. What should be concerning to a buyer is the lack of transparency.

As listing agents, we welcome strong buyer's agents. In addition to neighborhood and pricing information, there's a tremendous

level of expertise needed to execute a proper offer, and to navigate the world of counter offers. It saddens us to see qualified buyers losing out on opportunities because of the agent that they are using.

The most important thing you as a buyer can do is to carefully vet your selection. Here are three questions to ask:

1. Can you provide us with comps of recent sales for the property we are going to visit?
2. Can you provide us with your recent sales in the neighborhood?
3. Can you provide us with the names and contact information of two or three past clients so that we can check you out?

Buyer representation is an important topic today. Don't throw away your choice for the best representation by unsuspectingly clicking on an icon.

The climate of the real estate market is changing at a faster rate than ever, increasing the importance of having the proper representation. Knowledge, integrity and commitment are the three key traits that your agent should hold to get you through a seamless transaction process. And remember, the difference between a stressful sale and a successful one starts with an agent you can trust.

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# Gladstone's Reborn

By Amy Sommer

Upon reading his obituary, Mark Twain is said to have remarked, "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated." And so, last August, long-faced Palisadians were bemoaning Gladstone's imminent closure with predictions that the pop culture staple, used as a backdrop for shows ranging from 1980s Baywatch to the current NCIS, would serve its last meal in October 2023. Our palettes would have to be patient as we await a Wolfgang Puck and Frank Gehry collaboration that will emerge at the intersection of Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) and Sunset Blvd in the future.



The passing of Richard Riordan, the venture capitalist, two-term Los Angeles mayor, and Gladstones owner from the mid 1990's until his April 2023 death, left the iconic beachside eatery's future uncertain.

But then, on September 15, 2023, fans learned that the famed restaurant would remain open for a minimum of two more years under a new management group comprised of former staff.

"First and foremost, we wanted to do anything in our power to provide jobs for the people who have dedicated so much of their lives to this establishment.

We also are committed to honoring the Mayor's legacy," said general manager Jim Harris. "The County of Los Angeles gave us the opportunity to remain open, but there were a lot of moving pieces, and a quickly approaching deadline that could keep the whole project from moving forward. Thanks to the help of some very supportive and smart people, we were successful in pulling it off. We created the Gladstones Legacy Group and have



committed to maintaining the quality and hospitality that has been Gladstones' hallmark for decades."

Established in 1972 by Robert J. Morris, the Santa Monica Canyon eatery was named after William Ewart Gladstone, who served as the British Prime Minister four times in the 19th Century. Gladstones has been a beachside icon known for its fresh seafood and laid-back vibe since it moved to its current spot on three acres of Los Angeles County land in 1981.

Hired by Richard Riordan as the General Manager in 2017, Jim Harris considers keeping Gladstones open an honor. "In addition to this position, Mayor Riordan gave me his friendship and counsel over the last six years. The City of Los Angeles was lucky to have him as a leader and benefactor," Jim recalls with admiration for the philanthropist and Korean War veteran who served as LA's 39th mayor from 1993-2001.

Our own publisher, Diane Elder, worked with the Mayor, first as a fundraiser and publicist during his campaign and then on his staff at City Hall. She met Jim Harris at Riordan's funeral last year and decided that she too would do whatever she could to promote and help Gladstones to continue the legacy of the man she considers to be L.A.'s greatest mayor.

However, how long Gladstones will continue to operate in its current incarnation remains unclear as the new development's

## Gladstone's cont'd

time frame has yet to be finalized. "It is a big project, and the scope of work is immense. We will operate as we always have, with passion for our guests and quality. When the new development is ready to break ground, we will do what we can to assist with that transition, keeping the property viable as long as possible to minimize the impact the project will have on the neighborhood as it is being built," says the community-focused Jim.

While the Gladstones Legacy team has no current role in the new development, there is a lot of respect for the ambitious nature of the project. "Wolfgang Puck was a personal friend of Mayor Riordan's, and he is brilliant when it comes to spaces and concepts," says Jim. "He has been very generous with his time and ideas about the new venture. We are rooting for the new development's success and will do what we can to help ensure a seamless transition for the community when they are ready to break ground."

Spring is in the air. Jim and his crew will add new menu items to their classic fresh seafood and steak offerings as the weather warms. "We've brought back past favorites like RJs Famous Ribs from our now-shuttered sister Beverly Hills restaurant. We've also added a Steak Sandwich featuring Grass Fed New Zealand Prime Steak," Jim adds as my mouth starts to water.

The Gladstone crew is also adding special events featuring live music. Take advantage of the Palisadian 25% discount on all menu items available on Tuesdays after 4pm. The restaurant also offers a Golden Hour promotion, which features \$5 beer and wine, \$7 parking, and an array of tasty treats for \$7 each. Experience the reemergence that the season symbolizes and enjoy a special night by the sea.

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Cover photo from April 2023

## April 2023 to April 2024 - Tagliati

By Amy Sommer

Palisades Neighbors is launching a new, occasional series that we're calling Cover Update where we check in with our cover family from the same month the year prior. In April 2023, I had the privilege of writing about my neurologist, Dr. Michele Tagliati, FAAN (Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology) the Caron and Steven D. Brody Chair in Movement Disorders Professor and Vice Chairman, Director of Movement Disorders at Cedars Sinai.

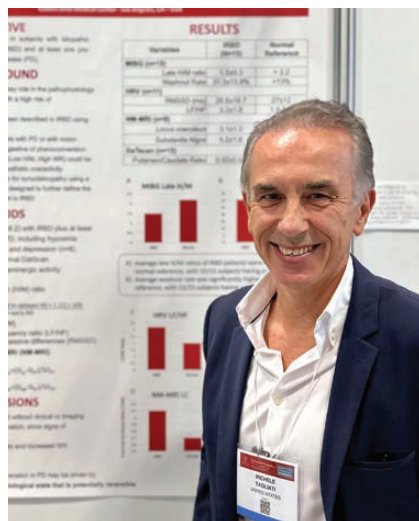
In the 366 days between April Fools Day 2023 and National Jump in Muddy Puddles Day 2024 many things have changed for the Tagliatis and the world – and much remains the same.

April is still Parkinson's disease Awareness Month. I'm still aware I have the disease. I bet that you remain cognizant of this fact too, (especially now that I've reminded you).

PD is the second most common neurologic disorder in the United States, after Alzheimer's disease. It is characterized by tremors and slow, stiff body movements. Why? Because our dopamine-producing cells die off far too early for reasons I, like the 499,000 to 999,000 of other Americans estimated to have this movement disorder, really, really, really wish science would figure it out. And soon. Please. Many experts believe that many people with PD are un- or misdiagnosed, which is why the range for the number of sufferers is so broad.

Carbidopa/Levodopa a drug used widely since the 1980s, remains the gold standard of care for those of us with PD. There is no cure and only one or two possibly disease ameliorating drugs on the market, but there is hope. There is progress. And our very own Palisadian is one of the medical leaders making that progress.

In late April of 2023, shortly after our story ran, the good doctor was the lead author on a presentation at the American Academy of Neurology entitled **Evidence of Sympathetic Overactivity in Subjects with REM Behavior Disorder at Risk for Parkinson's Disease**, a step



Dr. Tagliati presenting his work in Cartagena, Columbia

### Tagliati cont'd

toward understanding the early phases of the disease and maybe finding a way to prevent it.

Dr. Tagliati presented further data at the International Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders in Copenhagen, Denmark (August 2023) and at the Pan-American Section of the Movement Disorders Society in Cartagena Colombia (February 2024).

After finding the time to run in the National Senior Games 5K and 10K finals in Pittsburgh, Dr. Tagliati and his Cedars Sinai colleagues published some of the results of the clinical trial through which I met him in the Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society **A Randomized, Double-blinded, Placebo-controlled Trial of Liraglutide in Patients with Parkinson's Disease: Neuropsychological Outcomes.**



Dr. Tagliati running in the National Senior Games where he placed \_\_\_\_\_



Dr. Tagliati and a colleague after a run in Denmark

The preliminary data from the long-titled research above is the foundation of further research efforts at Cedars-Sinai, where the group led by Dr. Tagliati is raising funds to investigate the early phases of Parkinson's disease, when the neurodegenerative process can be slowed or halted all together.

The good doctor's two children are also thriving.

Daughter Isabella is an actress and filmmaker whose award-winning short films, **Happy Birthday** and **Burraco** – celebrating her inter-generational relationship with her grandmothers - were hits on the film festival circuit and are now screening on Vimeo.

Her upcoming projects include a recurring role in the Amazon Prime reboot of Cruel Intentions that will screen on the platform later this year. You can also catch her viral comedy on Tiktok and Instagram @yogamom777

Son Luca is a runner like his father recently graduated from Bard College with a B.A. in Environmental and Urban Studies. He is pursuing graduate studies in Public Health but hasn't ruled out following his sister's entertainment footsteps.



Filmmaker and actress Isabella Tagliati

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# Vivian Foster: A Palisades Fashion Legend

By Amy Sommer | Photos Courtesy of Vivian Foster

I revel in the thrill of a good splurge. The joy of a spontaneous indulgence, whether it's a spur-of-the-moment purchase with a friend, husband, or just your credit card. A new, fun item made meaningful by the story that surrounds its acquisition. Who doesn't enjoy that – until the credit card statement comes at the end of the month leaving your pocketbook remorseful.

Self-flagellation proves more difficult as I age, which has put a crimp in my shop, sob, self-flagellate cycle. So, what's an aging (my pal suggested I substitute the word seasoned here – but honesty compels me to stick to my editorial guns) shopper like me to do? Head to Vivian's Boutique.

Vivian's Boutique has become my clothes haven, allowing me to relish in my spontaneous splurges and those carefully planned ones without the subsequent tears at the sight of my monthly credit card bill.

Self-flagellation? I've almost forgotten what that feels like.

A beloved fixture in Pacific Palisades for nearly four decades, Vivian Foster's longevity can be attributed to her unparalleled trifecta of style, service, and sensible pricing—a combination that Palisadians in the know cherish.

"I enjoy dressing women of all sizes and ages. I want my clients to feel beautiful and confident. I work with everyone individually to enhance what they see as their assets and downplay features they don't like," says Vivian as she tries valiantly to give me a dash of panache.

"We give personalized attention to our clients. Clothes should make you feel good and help you put forth your best self into the world," she adds as she deftly wraps the perfect floral scarf to compliment my navy sweater and slacks.

The name Vivian, derived from the Latin word "vivus" meaning alive, perfectly encapsulates the vibrant atmosphere of Vivian's Boutique on Via de la Paz. It's not just the selections that are well-made, well-priced, and infused with joie de vivre; it's the store's vibe that makes the experience of searching for the perfect whatever – Vivian has it all... well, except undergarments - that makes the process as fun as the purchase itself.

With her keen fashion sense honed through years of experience, Vivian curates a collection that breathes life into each garment.

"People walk into the store and are confused because there are so many items from so many styles. But I know where everything is – and I have a vision," says the sexagenarian whose petite figure and long, lush locks make one think of the first half of the above categorization and doubt the veracity of the "genarian part". She certainly does have a vision, a vision of how everyone can look their best.

As I admire the earrings that Vivian insisted I try on, despite my initial reluctance, I'm struck by how they enhance my features. This keen eye for detail is one of Vivian's many talents—she possesses the rare ability to assess her clients with warmth and incisiveness. She's like an idealized version of your inner critic, you know, the one who offers actual constructive criticism.

"When I opened my first Palisades shop in the late 1980's (the haberdashery has been housed in three 90272 locations over the years) I aimed to bring affordable clothing to working, westside women," reflects the effervescent Vivian, her passion for her craft evident in every word.

Fashion is but one of Vivian's passions. She has others, too. Six of them, to be exact: her daughter, four grandchildren, and son-in-law. Yes, they have names. But no, we're not going to include them here lest *Palisades Neighbors* be the cause of a family fissure. As someone who has crossed out many lines in many school and camp media release forms, I admire her daughter's protective instincts.

"My son-in-law is a successful financial planner. And I'm speaking not just as a proud mother-in-law but also as a client; he manages my money. He's done very well with my investments – he's got a great incentive to keep it up because if he loses it, I'm moving in with them. And while the mother and daughter are as close as I hope my daughter and I will remain, "both of us know we'd kill each other if we lived together," Vivian concludes with her warm, infectious laugh.

"My daughter attended Palisades Elementary. She got a great education in a loving community. And while the Palisades has changed a lot since then (Vivian's daughter is a quadragenarian) the neighborly feeling remains."

As a quinquagenarian (okay, this roll ends here) I'm in the middle of these two chic women. And in the middle of so many temptations, I must put my laptop away lest I drop it and all the well-priced enticements in my arms.

"I'm seeing a lot of small floral prints on long dresses. Everything classic coming is back. There are a lot of classic pieces, but with a modern flair/twist," says Vivian about the trends she is seeing this summer.

Okay, that eliminates a couple of items....



A young shopper looks for additional dress options while wearing one of Vivian's selections

"I buy a little bit of everything. I want to be a one-stop shop for my clients – whether they're going ballroom dancing or making a boardroom presentation, I have clothes for them to wear." And the eye to put them together in ways that they'll enjoy seeing in their reflection.

In the fashion free-for-all that is California style, Vivian's keen eye, impeccable taste, and personalized service provide a guiding light, helping her clients navigate the ever-changing fashion landscape with confidence and style and without breaking the bank.

Shop at Vivian's, and you'll never be afraid to open your mail again.



(Top) Vivian & model Asia  
(Bottom) Four of Vivian's Passions on Christmas 2023

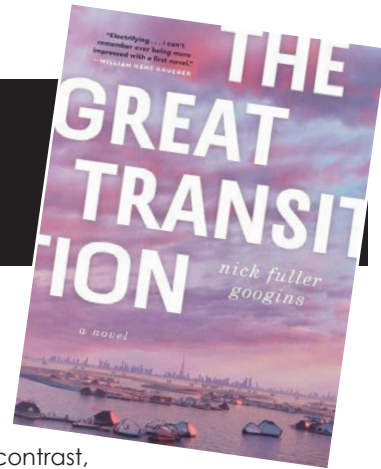


Vivian with Publisher, Diane Elder



# The Great Transition, by Nick Fuller Googins

Reviewed by Carol O'Day



Author Nick Fuller Googins boasts real-life a Pacific Palisades connection. Before relocating to Maine, Fuller Googins taught Language Arts and Literature at St. Matthew's Parish School.

In *The Great Transition*, Fuller Googins creates a post-climate crisis apocalyptic world, and brings the reader on one family's roller coaster ride through this universe. *The Great Transition* in the title refers to the collapse of society as a result of worldwide inaction in the face of impending climate crisis and the rescue and recovery of the world on the shoulders of workers who bond together in solidarity to transition the world to climate sensitive and ecologically sound practices to save humanity. The villains of the story are the corporations and the wealthy, and to some extent everyday citizens, who ignored the warning signs and did too little to avert the impact of the climate crisis on the world biosphere.

In this future world, we meet Emi Vargas Brinkman, a highly anxious fifteen-year-old single child of Transition heroes, Kristina Vargas and Larch Brinkman. Kristina survived extreme heat and wildfires of what was Mexico. She and her family fled, and she and her sister were separated from her parents in gruesome immigration camps. Larch's parents were victims of a Maine wildfire, leaving him alone at 15. Orphaned (or effectively orphaned), both Kristina and Larch find community in the cooperatives working to rescue the planet, putting out wildfires, building flood breaks, deconstructing buildings for essential materials and resources. They each achieve a level of fame in their work and encounter one another on a wildfire deployment in the West. They fall in love as they continue their service assignments and ultimately move to a new-age community of Nuuk, Greenland where they have their child, Emiliana.

This is not a happily-ever-after story. Can a post-apocalyptic story ever be, I wonder?

Kristina is deeply wounded by her past and remains angry; she is a beacon to those who might forget the past or become complacent with the present. Kristina continues

regular voluntary in service deployments and is hostile to any sort of ease. Larch, by contrast, is comfortable with his years of extraordinary service, and readily embraces fatherhood and his post-Transition life in Nuuk, Greenland. Their daughter, Emi, is a charming and complex fifteen-year-old. Her frustration with her parents rings true to her age. I found Emi's eating disorder an unfortunate choice as a symbol of youth anxiety over climate uncertainty, primarily because it seemed to be largely unaddressed, unsustainable and slightly romanticized. Nonetheless, it was a clear indicator of the instability of her world and her underlying fear throughout the novel.

Crisis erupts when Kristina disappears around a Day Zero holiday (the anniversary of the planet reaching zero emissions). Larch and Emi go in search of her, and it becomes increasingly obvious that Kristina is involved in a subversive movement to bring justice to aging corporate climate control criminals. During their search for Kristina, Emi is kidnapped as a hostage to prevent more vigilante justice by Kristina and her colleagues. A furious search and rescue ensue.

As I am neither a fantasy nor post-apocalyptic future novel enthusiast, the world-building necessary to create a successful science fiction and apocalyptic future novel is challenging for me as a reader. That said, once sufficient world-building groundwork has been laid, Googins does an admirable job of building suspense and tension as the novel unfolds and the clock ticks down on the window to rescue Emi. Furthermore, Googins' depiction of what a future devoid of meaningful action toward climate crisis solutions might look like is both grim and timely reminding us that the crisis is real, and the future is now.

For more book reviews and writing by Carol O'Day visit BookLife on Substack at [www.caroloday.substack.com](http://www.caroloday.substack.com).

# Pacific Palisades Historical Society

By Barbara Kohn, PPHS President

You're enjoying the view of a century ago, looking up-coast from the Via de las Olas bluffs. This oil is dated 1921, a year before Pacific Palisades was founded. Look closely and you won't find any houses, but you will get a glimpse of Inceville, the early movie studio that pioneer filmmaker Thomas Ince located in Santa Ynez Canyon (where Sunset Blvd. now meets Pacific Coast Highway). The painting is signed H. Tange. Herman Tange (1866-1942), born in Denmark, moved to Southern California, where he discovered a series of memorable landscapes he captured on canvas.

No need to go to a museum to see this painting in person. Donated by former Palisades resident Tom Burlin to the Pacific Palisades Historical Society (PPHS), it's on display in the lobby of the Palisades Branch Library at 861 Alma Real Drive, across from the circulation desk. And while you're at the library, you can explore the local history section on a dedicated shelf. Just ask the librarian for directions. And then maybe you can walk to the park next door to check out the bocce courts. Or perhaps even continue onward for a hike along the paths of historic Potrero Canyon.

PPHS and Pacific Palisades—we have history together. And we share it!

### WE TREASURE EVERYBODY'S SUPPORT

It's easy to join or renew your PPHS membership online at <https://www.pacificpalisadeshistory.org/membership-donations> or via mail at: Pacific Palisades Historical Society, P.O. Box 1299, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Individual memberships are only \$35.00. We welcome new members and contributions of any amount. Thank you.

Membership dues and contributions enable PPHS to continue community outreach through our website and emails, present free community programs, provide historic photos, record oral histories, award scholarships to Palisades Charter High School "PaliHigh" graduates and archive and research our community history. Our volunteers appreciate your support!




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# EVERYCHILD FOUNDATION

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF WOMEN REINVENTING PHILANTHROPY

By Amy Sommer



Created in 2000 "to ease the suffering of Los Angeles-area children whether due to disease, disability, abuse, neglect or poverty," the Everychild Foundation has taken the giving circle model and improved upon it – maximizing the use of donor dollars through its rigorous grant process and by funding innovative, replicable new projects serving children to best leverage these monies.

For the past 25 years, its 200 women members, many of them Palisadians, pool their annual dues to provide a \$1 million targeted grant to an established organization that has proposed a new project serving L.A.'s youngest and most vulnerable population. As a result, Everychild has now awarded close to \$22,000,000.00 in grants countywide.

Each year, the Grant Outreach Committee (chaired the past four years by Palisadian Ande Rosenblum) begins the process of soliciting project applications. Next, the Grant Screening Committee, a group of 20 members trained by a professional consultant, vet a group of about 20 grant applications to select two finalists who present their proposed programs to the entire membership. Finally, the members then make the difficult choice of which of the two intensely scrutinized, outstanding candidates will receive the award.

The members have always contributed individual gifts to the "runner-up" candidate to help them bring their project to fruition. But starting six years ago, Everychild increased its minimum required membership contribution so the foundation could award them a \$100,000 grant directly.

## The Everychild Foundation, cont'd

Beginning with just 56 members, Everychild presented its first grant in 2000 in the amount of \$230,000 to QueensCare who established a mobile dental clinic serving schools in low-income areas of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Since then, Everychild grants have provided the seed funding for a myriad of programs that help children through many of the difficult circumstances into which they were born. These programs include housing and a path forward for youth aging out of the foster care system, programs to mitigate effects of lead paint poisoning in slum housing, the creation of universally accessible playgrounds for kids with disabilities, mental health services for youth in precarious living environments, and diversion programs that help give kids who break the law a second chance, so they avoid the pipeline to adult prison.

All projects are carefully overseen by Everychild's Grant Monitoring Committee to make certain that funds are not dispersed until the benchmarks outlined in the agency's specific grant agreement are met. This assures that the members' dollars are doing exactly what they were intended to do.



Andy & Jacqueline Caster  
Photo from the September 2022 cover

Everychild Foundation has also branched into legislative advocacy work on behalf of at-risk children and has inspired the creation of over 30 other similar organizations throughout the country and even abroad, including the Women's Foundation of the United Kingdom, The Nevada Women's Philanthropy and the locally based SAM Initiative and Women Helping Youth.

On this Silver Anniversary, Palisades Neighbors asked the Everychild Foundation's Founder and President, Palisadian

Jacqueline Caster, who with her spouse Andy graced our September 2022 cover, to reflect on what the group has achieved – and what she envisions for the next quarter century.

### 25 years! Congratulations. Did you know that Everychild would not only survive but flourish for this long?

**A:** I really had no idea having never put together anything like this before. But since so many women enthusiastically embraced the concept right from the beginning – making a targeted financial impact without the hassle of putting on time-consuming and costly fundraising events and having the opportunity to learn about children's needs and effective solutions to address them. – I was cautiously optimistic.

### Q: What is/are your proudest accomplishment over this quarter century?

**A:** I would say our longevity and our consistent annual member retention rate of roughly 95%. It is a very significant financial commitment to be a part of our foundation, and the high renewal rate is evidence that our members find their participation truly rewarding and impactful.

It's not only Everychild members who find Everychild's work impactful. Jacqueline has been widely recognized for her visionary work with Everychild. Her awards include being named 2017 Woman of the Year for California's 26th State Senatorial District by Senator Ben Allen. She also received the

inaugural Sister Janet Harris Award from Loyola Law School for her juvenile justice advocacy, the Momentum Award from the Women's Foundation of California, as well as the Nancy M. Daly Advocacy Award from the National Child Labor Committee, the Nancy M. Daly Founder's Award from United Friends of the Children for her commitment to children's causes and the Silver Shingle Award from Boston University School of Law, her alma mater, for her service to the community. She also currently serves on several nonprofit advisory boards .

### Q: What is your focus now? Where do you want Everychild to be in 25 years?

**A:** Hopefully, still leveraging our grants to have maximum impact, continuing to effect public policy to benefit children, and most of all, to be a force for making our society more cognizant of how protecting and investing in EVERYCHILD benefits EVERYONE in the long run.

Everychild has improved the lives of many children – and many members – worldwide. I know I speak for many when I say how excited I am to see what this dynamic group of women accomplish in the next 25 years.

Dedicated to easing the suffering of children in the Greater Los Angeles area.

For more information: [www.EverychildFoundation.org](http://www.EverychildFoundation.org)  
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Spring is in the air. Plants that huddled dormant underground now rejoice in the warming air and spring back to life sending us outside to enjoy their beauty (don't forget to take an antihistamine first though).. It is time to rejoice in the lengthening days and the fun that they hold.

Come out of your winter cave and embrace the outdoors. Smile at a stranger, and observe with awe, wonder, and fellow Angelenos (and proper eye protection of course) the total eclipse of the sun

During these divisive times, let's try to remember that which unites us rather than focusing on what divides us.

- Amy Sommer

**Monday, April 8, 2024 | A Total Solar Eclipse @North America**

A narrow band of our great land spanning from Texas to Maine will be able to witness a total solar eclipse which occurs when the moon's orbit takes it between the earth and the sun so that it completely blocks the face of the sun. Those at the center of the moon's shadow will experience darkening skies and a total eclipse of the sun. The rest of North America will enjoy a partial eclipse. Look up – but only if you WEAR PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR.

**For information on this solar eclipse and safely viewing an eclipse visit <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses>**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2024 | Eid al-Fitr @Across the globe**

This joyous holiday marks the end of Ramadan, the month-long holiday where Muslims fast from dawn to dusk. Friends and family gather for a feast, pray, and perform charitable acts.

**For more information: [www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eid\\_al-Fitr](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eid_al-Fitr)**

**Friday, April 12-Sunday, April 14, 2024 & Friday April 19- Sunday April 21, 2024**

**The Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival @The Empire Polo Club in the City of Indio**

Spend two weekends in the desert enjoying live performances by premier musical talent.

**For more information and tickets: <https://coachella.com/>**

**Saturday, April 13, 2024 | 10am-2pm Earth Day Celebration**

Bring your friends and family and enjoy magic shows and earth-friendly arts and crafts while being entertained by live music and dance. The Sanitation Department will also host tours of their facilities and share things you can do to protect Mother Earth.

**For more information: <https://www.lacsd.org/community-outreach/events/earth-day>**

**Saturday, April 20, 2024 Husband Appreciation Day @Everywhere**

The third Saturday of April combines the romance of Valentine's Day, the respect

of Father's Day and the comradery of Best Friends' Day to create a sweet celebration that I, as a lucky wife, will surely celebrate.

**For more information: <https://nationaltoday.com/husband-appreciation-day/>**

**Sunday, April 21, 2024 | 10am-5pm Bob Baker Day**

@Los Angeles State Park, 1245 N Spring Street in Los Angeles

Celebrate the life and artistic legacy of the extraordinary puppeteer Bob Baker with puppet performances and a wide assortment of related crafts and activities. RSVPs are required, the \$20, suggested donation is optional.

**For more information; [www.bobbakerday.com](http://www.bobbakerday.com)**

**Monday, April 22, 2024 | Earth Day**

@Across the globe

Established in 1970, the same year that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was created, this spring day reminds us to respect our Mother Earth

**For more information: <https://www.epa.gov/earthday> or <https://www.earthday.org/>**

**Monday, April 22, 2024 – April 30, 2024 Passover**

@Across the globe

One of the holiest holidays on the Jewish calendar, these eight days commemorate the Jews' exodus from slavery in Egypt. The Seder was the meal that Jesus and his disciples ate as their Last Supper.

**Saturday, April 27, 2024 | 11am LA Made: Chinese Calligraphy**

@Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real in Pacific Palisades

Learn about Chinese Calligraphy at the Palisades Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library. This program is presented as part of the LA Made at the Los Angeles Public Library series which features free music, dance, theater and conversations with local entertainers at libraries throughout the city.

**For more information on the Palisades Branch program: <https://www.lapl.org/branches/palisades>. For more information on LA Made: [www.lapl.org/lamade](http://www.lapl.org/lamade).**

**Loropetalum in Motion**  
Francia Turner Fate



YoLoropetalum, began its journey in China, Japan, and mountainous regions of Nepal. This striking evergreen can be found throughout our local gardens.

Like spools of soft magenta ribbon unfurled, wild and windblown. Fuchsia, light vermillion, blush-rose, nestled in, deftly placed for dramatic effect, interspersed with leaves of silver-sage, subtle gray, blue-green, tinted, painted borders. Confluence of leaves, encompassed by sylph-like bands of color.

Confetti strips forming condensed spheres. Surprising, not rounded, but spear-tipped edges on slender petals. Unexpected, billowing, beams of color emanating from one central core. Centrifugal force, placed in asymmetrical patterns, clusters throughout its branches.

Concentric circles, natural replicas of miniature cheer-leading pom-poms, ready to reach high-flying heights. Created for nature's jubilant game, glowing from within, candid, spontaneous.

Loropetalum, spirals swirling, unusual, exotic, rare. Perpetual motion, images not static, in states of majestic change, flux, ebb and flow, flowing.

Francia Turner Fate is an award-winning author and artist of both children's and art travel books. She received her Bachelor of Fine Art and Master of Arts degrees from Oxford University. Copyright © 2024 by Francia Turner Fate. Email: [francia\\_fate@aol.com](mailto:francia_fate@aol.com)

**Sunday April 7, 2024 | Divine Divas of Dance**

@Hermosa Beach Community Theater, 710 Pier Avenue in Hermosa

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Tickets are: \$25 (general seating) \$35 (reserved seating) and \$45 (front rows) and are available via Venmo (@Angela-Buttrey) or Zelle (Angela.Buttrey@gmail.com)

**For more information contact Angela at Anglea at [Angela.Buttrey@gmail.com](mailto:Angela.Buttrey@gmail.com)**



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## Why Is April 15th Tax Day?

By Selby Kia

Tax day: evaded by some, dreaded by all. How did April 15th become the day we all know and love? You didn't ask, but we'll tell you anyway.

Prompted by the financial burden of the Civil War, the first income tax on Americans was in 1861, at a rate of 3% for those making over \$800. Prior to this, most government revenue came from taxes on imported goods or excise tax on certain goods like whiskey (also known as "sin tax," and still in place today on things like cigarettes).

It wasn't until February 3rd, 1913, that the 16th amendment passed, enacting the Federal income tax. That year less than one percent of the US population paid income tax (and only at a rate of about 1% for incomes between \$4,000 and \$20,000) due to a bevy of exemptions and reductions.

Originally, taxes were set to be due on March 1st, one year after the amendment passed. At the time, this only affected the top ~4% of earners

in the country, since thresholds for taxation were so high (\$3,000 for single-filers, \$4,000 for those filing jointly – which translates to roughly \$90,000 and \$120,000 in today's dollars). However, Congress realized people needed more time to file their taxes and pushed the deadline back to March 15th in 1919 to allow some breathing room.

Over the next 30 years, as the income threshold declined, more and more people were required to file taxes – which were ever-increasing in complexity. When Congress revised the entire tax system in 1954, they extended the deadline to the date we know today: April 15th. Officially, the reason behind the delayed due date was to spread out the work for IRS employees. There are some who posit that the delay is so that the government can wait a bit longer to issue refunds. Regardless, this year you have until April 15th to file your Federal Income Tax. Though Congress will occasionally push the deadline back a few days to accommodate weekends and holidays, this year there is no such luck.

So, file your tax return on April 15th and party like it's 1913.



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