

Geoff Maleman



New board in place after dust settles in Neighborhood Council elections

BY GEOFF MALEMAN

One week after the inaugural Nov. 12th election for the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey, the League of Women Voters has announced the results.

The election drew nearly 1,200 voters from throughout the community to select 31 seats on the Neighborhood Council's board of directors.

Most of the seats were determined in a landslide, but several close races had to be recounted at least once under the direction of the League of Women Voters.

Among the closest races was the battle for Residential District No. 5, which represents the Loyola Village area between Lincoln Boulevard and Georgetown Avenue, north of Manchester Avenue.

In that seat, Yael Kozar, a stay-at-home mom who is involved in the Westchester Mom's Club and her local Neighborhood Watch, defeated Los Angeles Fire Department firefighter Jeff Elder by just 30 votes.

D.A. "Curt" Curtiss was elected to seat No. 27, the Recognized Community Organization Volunteer seat, though he was not the leading vote-getter. The No. 1 vote-getter in that seat, Kentwood resident Sheila Mickelson, received more votes in the at-large category and, therefore, was elected to that seat.

Curtiss, who finished second for seat No. 27, will serve as the

Recognized Community Organization Volunteer representative.

By far, the most contested seats were for the board's at-large representatives.

All told, 45 candidates sought election to the five at-large seats, though many also ran for other positions on the board.

The League of Women Voters spent several hours recounting the ballots for the at-large seats and determined that the five candidates who received the most votes were, in order, Andrea Davis, Playa del Rey resident and property owner; Judith Ciancimino, Westchester resident and executive director of the Westchester/LAX Transportation Management Association; Sheila Mickelson; Harry Rose, Osage resident and member of the Osage Neighborhood Association; and Dorraine Gilbert, librarian, teacher and interior decorator.

That group of five bested Mike Arias, Chairman of the Westchester Family YMCA Board of Managers, who was elected to represent the Youth Organization Seat; and Westchester/Playa del Rey native Scott Carni.

The following are the results of the election for the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey board of directors:

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 1

Val Velasco 777

Julie Inouye 173

Barry Weiss 33

Dorraine Gilbert 16

Dina Galen 10

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 2

Gloria Blancett 662

Jim Hoch 118

Alex Weir 1

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 3

Sibyl Buchanan 510

Bob Gunnell 351

Scott Carni 71

Barbara Mather 44

Mike McDermott 2

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 4

Robert Weldon 522

Joe Geever 336

Mary Shellogg 61

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 5

Yael Kozar 310

Jeffrey Elder 280

Cindy Boulton 174

Raymond Paskauskas 125

Frank Jahn 50

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 6

James Ferro 483

Peg Pollino 240

Xavier Swamikannu 61

Tom Cunningham 52

John Knowlton 45

Ralph Lee Polak 30

Reginald Keys 18

Mike Delemco 5

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 7

Myra Kriwanek 708

James Barry 118

Kenneth Egan 107

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 8

Joe Callinan 530

Rich Rollins 210

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 9

Robert Acherman 484

Rex Frankel 310

Curt Curtiss 85

Patricia Moak 58

Samuel Lingrosso 45

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 10

David Coffin 539

Lou Briones 305

Nathan Johnson 66

Hilary Sylvan 6

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 11

Robert Dalton 700

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 12

Denny Schneider 769

Doug Ehlers 98

Gisele Watson 54

Harry Rose 12

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 13

Efigenia Martinez 666

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 14

Steven Santos 671

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 15

John David Webster 668

Lawrence Lurvey 107

AT-LARGE SEATS #16-20

Andrea Davis 483

Judith Cincimino 355

Sheila Mickelson 297

Harry Rose 260

Doraine Gilbert 203

Mike Arias 191

Scott Carni 160

Robert Acherman 154

John Knowlton 151

Barbara Mather, 147

David Lyon 143

Sibyl Buchanan 135
Julie Inouye 133
Evey Loyo 123
Denny Schneider 107
Patricia Downing 91
Curt Curtiss 85
Rex Frankel 83
Joe Callinan 74
Gesele Watson 71
James Ferro 71
Michael McDermott 70
Bob Gunnell 66
Doug Ehlers 60
Lou Briones 55
David Coffin 52
Amy Fan 49
Rich Rollins 49
Kenneth Egan 47
Tom Cunningham 40
Robert Weldon 40
Tom Francis 39
Yael Kozar 38
Xavier Swamikannu 38

Robert Dalton 29

Sabrina Venskus 26

Gloria Blanchett 26

Francesco Montenegro 25

Barry Weiss 23

Nathan Johnson 16

Barry James 14

Joe Geever 14

Reginald Keys 14

Lawrence Lurvey 12

Jim Hoch 10

Dana Galen 6

BUSINESS #21

William West 468

Debra Terrill 149

Denny Schneider 82

Andrea Davis 48

Tom Cunningham 34

Cindy Boulton 32

Nathan Johnson 28

Evey Loyo 26

Gloria Blancett 19

Gisele Watson 18

Barry Weiss 1

David Lyon 1

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION #22

David Voss 297

Tom Francis 225

Frances Stronks 175

Judith Ciacimino 90

Curt Curtiss 59

Rex Frankel 55

Rich Rollins 45

Julie Inouye 5

Sabrina Venskus 1

EDUCATION #23

William Smith 756

Hilary Sylvan 2

Alex Dolan 1

John Popiden 1

Chris Colins 1

INCOME PROPERTY OWNER #24

Pat Lyon 558

Lou Briones 341

LAX #25

Barbara Yamamoto 702

Alex Dolan 5

Hillary Sylvan 2

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT

UNIVERSITY #26

Dolores Canizales 691

Alexis Dolan 150

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION VOLUNTEER #27

Sheila Mickelson 269

Curt Curtiss 234

Sabrina Venskus 199

Julie Inouye 118

Rex Frankel 32

Doug Ehlers 30

Gisele Watson 27

Tom Francis 14

RELIGIOUS DIRECTOR #28

David Gray 144

David Peickert 2

Rev Masted 1

Michael Beals 1

J.D. Webster 1

SENIOR CITIZEN #29

Kenneth Egan 439

Curt Curtiss 129

Doug Ehlers 91

Frank Jahn 90

Ray Liccini 88

SERVICE FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION #30

Gwen Vuchsas 547

Doug Ehlers 146

Curt Curtiss 70

Francesco Montenegro 46

YOUTH ORGANIZATION #31

Mike Arias 595

Frances Stronks 250

Rich Rollins 54

Gisele Watson 28

Tom Cunningham 26

The new board will hold its first meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, December 2nd, at the Congressional Church of the Messiah at the corner of Manchester Avenue and Rayford Drive in Westchester.

The meeting will be largely social, for the newly elected board members to get to know each other.

In the coming weeks, the newly elected board members will undergo a series of orientation meetings and ethics training put on by the city and the Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

FLIGHT PATH — Let's hope that the newly elected Neighborhood Council is as effective as the newly appointed local member of the Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners.

On Wednesday, November 13th, in his first meeting as a member of

the commission, Alan Llorens accomplished what the organizers of the Flight Path Learning Center could not during the last six years — find a home for the organization.

Llorens shepherded a request from the Flight Path group through the commission, which unanimously approved a plan to devote 12,000 square feet of the airport's Imperial Terminal to the group.

As part of the agreement, Flight Path will receive free office space, locations for presentation of aviation memorabilia, a video room and a conference room for speakers and educational programming.

Flight Path is a nonprofit organization dedicated to encouraging and helping to direct young people toward aviation and aerospace education. The group has already created an Aviation Rotunda as the "crown jewel" of the Flight Path.

Located on Sepulveda Boulevard between 88th Street and 89th Street in Westchester Village, the Rotunda is the starting point for the initial 30 plaques embedded along the Path leading to LAX.

Plaques recognizing Don Douglas, Jack Northrop, Howard Hughes and Dutch Kindelberger are at the Rotunda. Five more — Chuck Yeager, Amelia Earhart, the Wright Brothers, Lindbergh and Mines Field (LAX) — have special placement along Sepulveda. The original nine have been joined by additional honorees — including such names as Atwood, Hoover, Levier, Trout, the Tuskegee Airmen and even Rosie the Riveter — with plaques marking the Flight Path along both sides of Sepulveda Boulevard.

PVJOBS AWARDS — At a gala dinner Thursday, November 14th, the Playa Vista Job Opportunities and Business Services (PVJOBS) program announced the winners of its annual awards designed to recognize those who have made the job training program a success.

The organization turned the vacant Water's Edge building at the corner of Lincoln and Jefferson Boulevards into a showplace, featuring video presentations honoring the evening's awardees.

California Attorney General Bill Lockyer was the keynote speaker, calling the program a model for training at-risk youths and adults in construction jobs.

The organization also presented its Vision Award to Mona Field, a member of the Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees, who was instrumental in championing the board's adoption

of a six percent at-risk hiring goal for the district's \$1.2 billion bond project.

Fairfield Residential was honored with the Contractor of the Year Award for its efforts in developing the North Crescent Apartments, a 214-unit building currently under construction at Playa Vista and exceeding Playa Vista Job Opportunities and Business Services' ten percent at-risk hiring compliance goal.

NEW SENIOR LEAD — The Los Angeles Police Department has announced that there will be a new senior lead officer for car A 67, which is the police designation for the "car" that serves Westchester in the area bounded by Centinela Avenue, the 405 (San Diego) Freeway, Century Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard.

Officer Pete Llanes is the new senior lead and will be filling in for Officer Thomas Wicks until further notice.

Officer Llanes will be at the Osage Neighbors Association meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, December 2nd, at the Open Magnet Charter School. Those who attend will meet the officers that patrol our neighborhood.

To contact Officer Llanes, residents can call his cellular phone at (213) 509-2665 or leave a message at the station at (310) 202-2855.